



LANGER IS THE STAR GOLFER!
(See page 29 for a report and photos)

Bridgend & Porthcawl

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THURSDAY, JULY 31ST, 2014

Commemorating the centenary of the First World War WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

(See Pages 20 to 23)

Man suffered a fractured jaw during attack

COURT TOLD

A PORTHCAWL man, who was kneed in the face, suffered a fracture to the right side of his jaw, Cardiff Crown Court has been told.

His attacker, Shaun James (22), who also broke into his own mother's home and stole £40 that she had raised for church funds after selling cakes, was jailed for 22 months.

Report by AJ SICLUNA

James, of no fixed address, who had lived in New Road, Porthcawl, admitted inflicting grievous bodily harm on Jay Holwell (22) and a charge of burglary.

Judge Stephen Hopkins QC said James had "rained blows" on Mr Holwell before delivering a 'coup de grace' by kneeing him with full

force in the face. The burglary, said the judge, was "as mean and spiteful as one could imagine."

Prosecutor Jonathan Bushell said Mr Holwell had been a friend of James.

James made false accusations against Mr Holwell and on December 16, a gang of 10 to 20 people including James, surrounded Mr Holwell in Porthcawl.

James punched him 10 times and as Mr Holwell tried to defend himself, he was kneed in the face, causing the right side of his jaw to snap.

Moments later, he had difficulty breathing because of blood in his mouth.

He was treated at Morriston Hospital, where plates and screws were put into his jaw.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18)



Porthcawl welcomed visitors last Saturday with a free open top bus ride. (See page 15).

Plea for return of 'sentimental photos'

A VICTIM is urging a burglar to hand in an Apple MacBook Air which has photos of sentimental value on its hard drive.

Detectives in Bridgend are appealing for information following a burglary at a house in Drope Road, St Georges Super Ely, committed on July 16, sometime between midnight and 6am.

Detective Sergeant Paul Mason said: "A large amount of property was stolen including a Panasonic LCD TV, an iPhone 4, cash and an Apple MacBook Air, which contained sentimental family photographs".

Also stolen was a silver Audi A4, registration plate V777 JRC.

DS Mason added: "The family are desperate to get these items back and I am appealing to anyone who can help to contact us as soon as possible".

Officers would like to hear from anyone who noticed anyone acting suspiciously in the area, or who may have seen the Audi A4 in the vicinity after the burglary, to come forward and help with the investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact South Wales Police on 101 quoting reference number 1400255393.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be contacted anonymously on 0800 555 111, or via their website www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information.

First World War commemoration

ONE hundred years ago next week, Great Britain was plunged into the maelstrom of the First World War.

The horrors of the conflict and its dreadful toll on both sides has its echoes today, through family recollections and memorabilia passed down the generations, and the solemn pilgrimages made by many people, old and young, to World War One battlefields.

This week, on pages 20, 21, 22 and 23, The Glamorgan GEM reflects on the causes of the First World War, recounts some heartrending stories of the conflict, and reports on how local people plan to commemorate a war that was supposed to end all wars.

Our thanks to all who contributed and we will continue to welcome your contributions.

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Maesteg church's charity evening



Readers' Letters

Beth's story is 'inspirational'

WHAT an inspiration to read Beth Margetson's story in 'The GEM' about her battle with cancer.

For whatever reason, conventional pharmaceutical drugs do not work for some people – or in my experience can have serious side effects, causing other health problems.

They have to look at other ways of treating or maintaining their health by taking a holistic approach, recognising each individual's specific needs.

Some of us are fortunate to have doctors who will support their patient's choices, and know the benefits of holistic medicine, but generally it is an area which needs immediate attention.

Indeed, an organic diet is essential, along with organic supplements towards achieving one's aims, not forgetting healthcare,

beauty, and cleaning products which need to be organic and natural, so as not to add to the dangerous 'chemical cocktail' build-up which causes so many health problems.

Our pets can also benefit from such care. Barry's own Holland & Barrett stock the wheatgrass and barleygrass, as well as other useful products, and Waitrose have a good selection of organic produce.

Beanbreaks of St Mary Street, Cardiff have just added an organic juice bar to their store, and the staff are really helpful.

But yes, we certainly need more access to these products and information in the centre of our town.

Thank you to Caroline Sarll for covering this brave lady's story, and the issues she has outlined.

God bless you, Beth, I wish you victory!
Kasey Starr, Barry.

'Rich are getting richer, the poor getting poorer'

I WOULD like to remind Mrs B Kirke that just after the war most people were fully employed (GEM letters recently).

That's how we managed; not like today, where most of the employed people are part-timers.

If you have a full-time job, you are one of the lucky ones – but even then it's a struggle.

I have a daughter who works part-time because she cannot find a full-time job. Recently, the Government stopped her tax credits – amending the tax credit limit to 30 hours per week.

My daughter now gets £100 per week to live on.

Before this

Government start slashing people's income they want to get the country back to full-time jobs.

It's my belief that since the days of Thatcher, we've had two million people unemployed.

After serving in the forces, I returned to my old job and my wife worked full-time. In 1955, I bought my first car. Today you are struggling just to run a car.

That's 35 years of Tory policies. At least when the unions "ran" the country we were well off! So who runs the country best? Not this Government.

All they have achieved is making the rich richer and the poor poorer.
Bill Lang, Barry



ABOVE: Some of the charity event committee members.



All above photographs by SCENIC GALLERY.

OUR Lady and St Patrick's Catholic Church, Maesteg, staged its annual fundraising event, 'A Mid Summer Evening' at the school hall.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of this popular event, the theme was Hollywood, glitz, glamour and red carpet.

Seating 98 guests to a three-course supper and cabaret entertainment, the evening is likely to raise in excess of £900 towards the church restoration fund.

WI learn all about Japanese culture

THE July meeting of Coity WI was opened in brilliant sunshine by president Lyn Griffiths, who welcomed new members and visitors.

Since our last meeting, Coity WI had joined in the fun of Coity fete with their popular 'bag a bag' stall and the £50 note raffle, and there have been two very successful craft classes.

At the first of these, members made "exploding" photo boxes – a form of scrapbooking – with some impressive results, and at the second class they were introduced to felt craft.

Enid brought a beautiful white flower with beaded centre for members to see.

Pencoid WI won the Link scavenger hunt in Bryngarw Park, which was followed by a cream tea.

The speaker for the evening, Madari Pritchard, held members entranced with exquisite

photos and examples of Japanese culture. She demonstrated the wearing of the Japanese kimono.

Madari had also prepared origami cranes, one for each member, and showed us a garland made up of a thousand miniature cranes.

After the vote of thanks, president Lyn Griffiths went on to make a presentation to retiring secretary Ann Gore. Ann has served the WI at Coity for some 10 years.

We are all indebted to Ann for the huge amount of work she has done, from handling mail to keeping us informed of events and arranging trips.

On August 7, we will be visiting Carmarthen and the Gwili Potteries and taking a trip on the Gwili Railway.

The next meeting will be at 7pm on September 18 at Gilead Hall, when Mrs Pamela Robson will give a talk entitled 'Dial O for Operator'. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

ES

Cadets interview Red Arrow pilot at RAF Air Tattoo

CADETS from 2117 (Kenfig Hill) RAF Air Cadets attended the Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford, July 9 – 14.

The Air Show was open to the public over the weekend and the cadets from Kenfig Hill and other Squadrons from around the country were given assignments.

Instructor Cadet Flt Sgt Norris from Kenfig Hill Squadron was part of the cadet media team interviewing pilots and air crew attending RIAT. One of his assignments was to interview the Red Arrows and in particular Red 2, Flt Lt Stewart Campbell.

Flt Lt Campbell joined the RAF Air Cadets as a teenager, which eventually led to him becoming an officer in the RAF. He joined the RAF in 2003 and after graduating from advanced flying training on the Hawk, was selected to return to the Tucano at RAF Linton-on-Ouse to become a 'Creamie' qualified flying instructor.

After completing tactical weapons training, he was then selected to fly the

Harrier; then the Tornado GR4; after completing the Tornado Operational Conversion course, he was posted to 617 Squadron (The Dambusters).

He decided to apply for selection as a member of the Red Arrows team and had to meet the criteria of a minimum of 1,500 flying hours, completing a front line tour of duty, and assessed as being above average in his flying role.

During the training to become a Red Arrows pilot, he had to pass the public display authority in front of Air Vice Marshal Lloyd, OC 22 group at Akrotiri in Cyprus.

When asked which movement in the display he found the most challenging, he replied "the roll backs" – due to the intense gravity pull. This can cause blackouts due to the blood draining from the top half of the body into the lower part.

This is Flt Lt Campbell's first season with The Red Arrows and as it's their 50th anniversary, this makes it even more special.

LINDSAY THOMAS, Secretary of the Civilian Committee



Glyn Williams and Vida Halford were the winners of the Swansea Charity Congress 2014 pairs recently. (See page 4 for full report).

Who wants to build what and where?

Red Key Property Services – 2 Queen Street, Bridgend – New hanging sign, window graphics to front and side facing windows and entrance door; all non-illuminated.

Wales & West Housing Association – Trees at Restway Gardens, Bridgend – Programme of works to various trees within Restway Gardens.

Mrs Claire Edmunds – 1 Cavan Row, Castle Street, Maesteg – First floor extension above kitchen for an additional bedroom with rear-facing balcony (revised description).

Mr Glyn Hopkins – 74 Pen y Mynydd, Bettws – Single storey side extension and rear garage.

BOS Leisure – 12 Marshfield Avenue, Pyle – Change use to showroom to display swimming pools, spas, sauna and steam rooms including extension.

Mr Eric Averill – Cae Helyg Farm, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin – Block of three stables.

Mrs Joanne Young – 9 Pen Gwern, Pencoid – Porch to front of ground floor flat.

South Wales Police – Former Fiskars Building, Newlands Avenue, Brackla Industrial Estate, Bridgend – Change of use to joint vehicle maintenance facility.

Mr Steve Williams – Maes y Cal, Alfred Street, Maesteg – Enlargement of second storey rear annexe over existing garage incorporating external balcony.

Mr Keith Sutton – Ty Y Bryn, Highland Avenue, Bryncethin – Single store rear

extension.
Mr Marc Weizweig – Home Farm, Coytrahen – New roof coverings and structure to lounge, brewery and pool room and windows, doors and internal alterations and stepped retaining wall.

Mr Wayne Bryant – Treetops, 6 Y Llest, Pen-y-Fai – Conversion and alterations of swimming pool house to habitable space.

Badgers Brook A l l o t m e n t Association – Land off Meadow Rise/Badgers Brook, Brackla – Install drop kerb, security fencing and gates, new parking area and new compost toilet.

Mr G Parry – 50 Cwmfelin, Blackmill – Single storey rear extension.

Mr Kevin Morgan – 15 Marigold Court, Brackla – Side extension and front porch.

Vale of Glamorgan Council – Tesco Stores Ltd, Culverhouse Cross, Cardiff – Extension to store including garden centre and ancillary A1/A3 use, internal alterations for D1/D2 use and associated works.

Rage Fitness Limited – Unit 8 and 8A, Litchard Industrial Estate, Bridgend – Change of use from factory to gym.

Mr John Morgan – 1 Ffordd Austin, Porthcawl – Convert existing garage into a living room.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL AUGUST 7)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

| DATE | Time | Ht | Time | Ht |
|---------|-------|-----|-------|-----|
| | AM | M | PM | M |
| 31 Thur | 09.47 | 9.2 | 22.00 | 9.1 |
| 01 Fri | 10.19 | 8.8 | 22.33 | 8.9 |
| 02 Sat | 10.54 | 8.7 | 23.09 | 8.5 |
| 03 Sun | 11.34 | 8.4 | 23.53 | 8.2 |
| 04 Mon | | | 12.21 | 7.9 |
| 05 Tues | 00.46 | 8.1 | 13.25 | 7.9 |
| 06 Wed | 01.59 | 7.7 | 14.47 | 7.8 |
| 07 Thur | 03.22 | 7.9 | 16.08 | 8.2 |

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

Refurbishment breathes fresh life into Bridgend 'Rec'



Unveiling of the plaque by Coun Mel Nott, Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council and Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for wellbeing.



ABOVE: (left to right): The Mayor of Bridgend county borough, Coun Gary Thomas, COUN P J White, L C Morgan, M Gregory, Deputy Leader Coun D Sage, Coun Mel Nott, Madeleine Moon MP, Halo's Interim Chief Executive Scott Rolfe, Janice Gregory AM, GLL's National Partnerships Director Jon Argent, Andrew Thomas – BCBC Group Manager Sports and Physical Activity, Richard Hughes – BCBC Group Manager Libraries, Arts and Community Living.



PICTURED, left to right: Peter Bundy – GLL, Scott Rolfe – Halo Leisure, Jeremy Rowe – Halo Leisure Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Manager, Jon Argent – GLL.

BRIDGEND Recreation Centre has been officially renamed 'Bridgend Life Centre' following the completion of a multi-million pound refurbishment which has seen it combine leisure and fitness facilities with other services, such as the library and children's activity areas.

Following a £4m investment, the centre now includes state of the art facilities, bespoke changing areas, a brand new 80-station gym and exercise studios, as well as an integrated reception and café area.

In addition to the conventional services expected at a leisure centre, Bridgend Life Centre also offers facilities such as a new Halo Heights indoor climbing wall, JumpINGym children's soft play area, a wide range of fitness and activity classes for all ages, and a packed children's summer holiday programme that will provide fun activities during the long school break.

The new toning suite offers a low impact workout using power assisted exercise – an activity suitable for people of various ages, mobility and ability.

As well as working out, visitors to Bridgend Life Centre can also wind down in the new health spa offering sauna, steam room, feature shower, ice facilities and heated ceramic lounge beds, with onsite beauticians offering a range of beauty and

holistic treatments. The refurbishment, which has taken 18 months to complete, was made possible after Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) formed a partnership with social enterprise Halo Leisure, along with Greenwich Leisure Ltd (GLL) in 2012.

The new Bridgend Life Centre was officially opened by Coun Mel Nott, Leader of BCBC, and Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for wellbeing.

Coun Morgan said: "Bridgend Life Centre is a building we can really be proud of with everything it has to offer all under one roof."

"The swimming pool alone boasts a hydroslide, wave machine and hydrogym, not to mention the impressive new 'Halo Heights' climbing wall."

"Further to this, the library has benefited from its new location within the centre, with modern facilities and improved resources for the public to enjoy."

For more information about the facilities and services at Bridgend Life Centre and other leisure centres in Bridgend County Borough, please visit www.halo-leisure.org.uk.

PONTYCLUN MAN WAS 'IN A RUSH' AT LEVEL CROSSING Driver who jumped lights could have caused 'catastrophe'

A MOTORIST who jumped red lights at a level crossing on the main Swansea-Paddington line at Pencoed, could have caused a "catastrophe", said a judge at Cardiff Crown Court.

Judge Stephen Hopkins QC told 26-year-old Sion Ramson: "It was the most incredibly daft thing for you to have done."

Ramson, of Ynysddu Road, Pontyclun, admitted a charge of dangerous driving and was jailed for four months, the sentence suspended for two years.

He was also made subject to a supervision order for a year, and directed to observe an electronically-tagged curfew from 7pm to 7am for three months.

In addition, he was disqualified from driving for a year, and ordered to pay costs of £100.

Report by AJ SICLUNA

Prosecutor Claire Wilkes said that at about 6.15pm on February 1, the barriers were coming down on Pencoed level crossing. It was unmanned, and CCTV was in operation.

The barriers were descending and as they did so, Ramson drove across the level crossing at high speed.

He was later arrested and said: "I know I should not have crossed the way I did. I'm really sorry for this. I could have caused a serious accident."

He said he was in a rush because he had been called by his sick grandmother.

His counsel, Carl Williams, said: "I fully accept the barrier does not operate unless a train is coming."

"Ranson called an ambulance for his sick relative."

He said he had learned his lesson. He added that he had been taking cannabis and suffered anxiety and depression.

The judge pointed out that cannabis is a dangerous drug which causes mental and physical side effects.

"Why young people want to smoke it, we'll never know."

Concerning the level crossing incident, the judge said: "What you did was a particularly stupid and potentially catastrophic thing. A train was clearly due, but you drove around the barriers."

"He said he had put at risk his own life and those of people on the train."

The Ogmores Valley Ladies raise £1,635

THE Ogmores Valley Ladies Society held its annual garden party on Tuesday, July 15 at the home of Clive and Lydia Davies in Blackmill.

On a warm and sunny day, the event was extremely well attended and a total of £1,635 was raised, which will be distributed among various organisations of the valley.

The ladies would like to extend their thanks to all who attended and also to all who gave donations.

The society meets at 6.30pm on Monday evenings and extends a welcome to anyone who would like to join them.

SHEILA EVANS

Pupils shocked by bikes theft

SCHOOL pupils in Maesteg have appealed to the public to help reunite them with eight stolen mountain bikes.

The Vertigo mountain bikes were taken between Saturday, July 12, and 7.45am on Monday, July 14.

PCSO John Hill said: "The pupils are obviously upset".

The bikes, each worth £100, were stolen from a locked shed. Thieves sawed through gate pivots to gain access to the shed.

PCSO Hill added: "The pupils at the school are just shocked that somebody would go out of their way to

break through the gates and steal these bikes from them. We hope that they can be recovered."

Anyone with any information about the whereabouts of the bikes, or who may have seen anything suspicious near the school over that weekend, is asked to

contact South Wales Police on 101 quoting reference number 1400252839.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be called, free and anonymously, on 0800 555 111 – or via their website at: www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information.

The Lions and a classic car club team up...

MEMBERS of cars on display Porthcawl Lions Club, (around 80 at least) with the help of South Wales Classic Car Club, has been busy preparing for this year's vintage fair

which is being held at Porthcawl rugby club on Sunday (August 3), from 10am until 4.30pm.

The main attraction will be all the classic

It promises to be a very enjoyable day out for all the family and entrance is free – so why not come along and enjoy the fun?

John Cosson (Porthcawl Lions)

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PACT MEETINGS

BLAENGARW/Pontycymer PACT public meeting will be held on Monday, August 4, at the Garw Valley Leisure Centre at 6pm.

CAERAU PACT public meeting will be held on Monday, August 4, at Noddfa Chapel at 6pm.

SARN/BRYNCOCH PACT public meeting will be held on Monday, August 4, at Sarn Life Centre at 7pm.

LLANGYNNOR PACT public meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 6, at the Richard Price Centre at 5.30pm.

BETTWS PACT public meeting will be held on Thursday, August 21, at Bettws Life Centre at 1.30pm.

MAESTEG PUB REGULARS TACKLE CHARITY WALK



Picture by
Scenic
Gallery.

A CHAT in the bar between a few regulars about going for a walk, resulted in over 30 people joining in and raising £2,516.26 for Macmillan cancer support.

The walkers left the Mason's Arms in Maesteg at 9.30am, walked over two mountains and finished in Tonmawr Rugby Club.

After a quiz and refreshments, Forge Travel laid on minibuses free of charge to bring the walkers back to the Mason's.

The £2,516.26 was raised by walkers' sponsor forms, pub raffles, a wellie throwing competition, a quiz, and freshly made rolls from the bar.

The Bridgend committee from Macmillan were present at the Mason's Arms to receive the cheque (above), and assured all who were present that the money would be used locally.

Pupils' art highlights dangers near railway



Pictured at the station with the new safety poster are 14-year-old Aaron James, British Transport Police PCSO Ben Evans, and the Cynffig Comprehensive School deputy headteacher, Mike Stephens.

EIGHT pupils from Cynffig Comprehensive School in Pyle have completed a project aimed at illustrating the dangers of trespassing on the railway.

The scheme formed part of a community safety initiative led by British Transport Police, Arriva Trains Wales and Network Rail, which focuses on the very real danger of people crossing the tracks at the town's railway station rather than using the footbridge.

Using the slogan 'It's not a game, use your brain - just use the bridge', a colourful poster has been designed that is now on display on both platforms.

More than 1,000 postcards were produced, which were distributed to primary schools in the community as well as the comprehensive school.

Speaking at the station, PCSO Roger Batcup said: "Many trains pass through the station at speeds of up to 100mph and approach very quietly."

"With the school summer holidays now upon us, we are hopeful that parents and guardians will reiterate to their children the important safety messages contained on the postcards and remind them to always use the

bridge."

Deputy headteacher Mike Stephens said:

"The pupils' involvement in the project has been a positive one, with everyone developing a range of skills as well as achieving a worthwhile OCN qualification, which will support them in their future pathways."

"We are hopeful the project will raise awareness of railway safety throughout the school community and the local community as a whole."

"The pupils have benefited greatly, developing their confidence, communication, ICT and problem solving skills through holding public interviews as well as working closely with local PCSOs, British Transport Police and the rail industry."

"The safety poster and postcards designed by the group will provide key messages to the young people of Bridgend and are something they can be very proud of."

"Throughout this project 'working with others' has been a key skill the group has developed, and it has been a real team effort from pupils Jordan Gregory, Aaron James, Cory O'Connor, Callum Jenkins, Thomas Scammell, Cameron Stevens, Shane Mills and Connor Hick."

Success for two Bridgend Bridge players

GLYN Williams and Vida Halford who are both members of Bridgend Bridge Club have had success in two recent events.

Glyn and Vida won the pairs event at the Swansea Charity Bridge tournament in aid of the Samaritans and followed this with winning the teams at the Gloucester and Hereford teams event with their fellow team members Colin and Lavinia Thomas



AM is impressed by Llangynwyd Hall

REGIONAL Conservative AM Suzy Davies was bowled over by the area's newest village hall.

She was paying a visit to Llangynwyd where she popped into the new hall (above) which has been created in the original village school - later used as St Stephen's Church and then as an artist's studio.

The building was taken over by the Llangynwyd Village Hall Association and project manager David Jenkins said that it had to be totally gutted.

It was then renovated in a sympathetic style true to its scholarly origins. Tongue and groove panelling has been installed, painted in heritage colours.

"It has certainly retained the schoolroom ambience," commented the AM. "I especially love the palette of colours chosen - pale blue for the main hall and then a pale green in what is now the tearoom. They have kept one of the old fireplaces and they also have the school bell. It's very evocative."

Mrs Davies was told by committee member Val Duffin that the hall

is now in great demand. Activities taking place include sewing classes, Welsh classes, fifty plus fitness, parent and toddler group, after school club, table tennis and yoga.

The tea room is used for coffee mornings two days a week which has given local people a meeting place. There is no café in Llangynwyd.

"I heard about the struggle to get this building and it was a long, hard slog," said Mrs Davies.

"I remember buying a brick several years ago and I know that they had a lot of setbacks over the years, but the wait has been worth it. Apart from the hall itself, with its lovely kitchen and toilet

facilities, there is also a substantial car park created on the site of the old Social Services hall.

"This makes the village hall very viable as people can drive to it and park. The building is right on the main road, on a corner, so without the car park, it would be very difficult."

"But having such a central location, has many advantages, because it is within easy walking distance for many residents and is also right on the main bus route through the valley."

She added that the main hall has a stage and a piano, so is ideal for concerts and other musical or dramatic performances.

Ladies' Society raised £1,635

THE Ogmere Valley Ladies Society held their annual garden party on July 15 at the home of Clive and Lydia Davies at Blackmill.

On a very warm and sunny day, the event was extremely well attended and a total of £1,635 was raised, which will be distributed amongst various organisations of the Valley.

The ladies would like to extend their thanks to all who attended and also to all who gave donations.

The society meets at 6.30pm on Mondays and extends a welcome to anyone who would like to join.

Sheila Evans (Secretary).

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There's Wifi at the seaside... for free!

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) has joined forces with Wi-Fi specialists The Cloud to offer Porthcawl tourists, visitors and residents free outdoor internet access at the new marina and along the Esplanade.

With an estimated 34,000 visitors expected to visit Porthcawl over the next few weeks, following the recent Senior Open golf tournament, it will allow people to explore what the town has to offer.

Coun Mel Nott, Leader of BCBC, said: "Members of the public recently voted Porthcawl and Rest Bay into the National Trust's top 20 list of special places in Wales."

"I hope that this new service will help attract even more people, as they search for places to shop, eat out and enjoy in Porthcawl."

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Champ Wiebe selects Porthcawl's 'best dressed shop' winners



ABOVE: Winners of the Senior Open shop window competition, Julie Connick of Seren Fach tea room (left) and Sophie Page of Koko Jewellers, with defending champion Mark Wiebe. Photo by Getty Images.

DEFENDING champion Mark Wiebe made two shop keepers in Porthcawl very happy, when he made a special trip into the town centre ahead of the 2014 Senior Open Championship, presented by Rolex.

Mr Wiebe spent more

than an hour in the town ahead of the first round of his title defence at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, charged with the responsibility of selecting the best dressed shop window competition.

As part of a community initiative, shops in Porthcawl had been challenged to decorate their windows with golf memorabilia,

to engage with the holidaymakers and golfing spectators visiting the area for the Senior Open Championship.

He saw at first hand the creativity of shop keepers in the bustling town centre and was presented with a dilemma. He said: "I thought some of the shops were outstanding but, in the end, it was coincidence that the best two, in my view, were situated right next to each other."

"It was like finishing tied, as I was with Bernhard Langer in this championship last year – but whereas I had to play-off for the title, I thought it was more appropriate for the two shops to be judged as first equal!"

As a result, shop owners Julie Connick of Seren Fach tea room and Sophie Page of Koko Jewellers in Well Street shared first place.

Both ladies received four season tickets to all four days of the event, courtesy of the Senior Open Championship, and enjoyed the chance to decorate their windows and to meet the defending champion, who brought the trophy along with him.

Mr Wiebe also visited the staff of Tenovus and Age Cymru – the two official charities of the Senior Open Championship – who also showed their creative side by providing decorative shop fronts in the main thoroughfare, John Street.

TRACES of blood discovered by the police on an overturned car have led to the driver being jailed at Cardiff Crown Court for telling lies about the accident.

Kevin Williams (30) of Penybont Road, Pencoe, was jailed for eight months and disqualified from driving for a year after he admitted attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Said Judge Stephen Hopkins QC: "The offence underlines the principles of criminal justice. Only immediate custody is appropriate."

Prosecutor David Pugh said that Williams reported that his vehicle, a Peugeot 306, had been taken without consent.

However, said Mr Pugh, a police officer went to a road traffic accident on a single track highway between Bettws and Brynmenyn.

The Peugeot, belonging to Williams, was on its side, blocking the road.

It had been abandoned and the interior smelled of alcohol and vomit.

An air bag, which had been inflated, had traces of blood on it.

On November 26, Williams reported that the car had been stolen from outside a house in Litchard while he was watching sport on television with a friend.

But forensic tests showed that the blood was actually the defendant's.

He later contacted the police and said: "I've wasted enough of your time."

He said he acted as he did in panic. He said he crashed the car because at the time he was having an argument with his girlfriend on his mobile phone.

He was said to have previous convictions for driving with excess

alcohol and driving without due care and attention.

He was, the court heard, currently subject to a community order for causing criminal damage.

His barrister, Kevin Seal, said: "He knows full well the court's view of this matter and he knows he can lose his liberty. He would also lose his employment and others would suffer."

"When he realised the game was up, to his credit, he contacted the police."

The judge said he had read eight character references and he was aware that in his employment at the time of the accident, he had been reported in connection with seven motoring incidents.

CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP by AJ SICLUNA

Bloodstain clue led to jailing of local man

Jail for Pyle man who stole meat and wedding dresses

A MAN who stole wedding dresses and jewellery, and a quantity of meat, as well as being involved in an affray, has been sent to a young offender institution for 22 months at Cardiff Crown Court.

Thomas Campbell (20) of Beach Road, Pyle, admitted charges of burglary, affray, possessing an offensive weapon, and causing criminal damage.

Prosecutor Jonathan Bushell said that on one occasion, Campbell went to the Quadrangle, Pyle, the home of Shaun Pemberton.

He kicked in the front door of Mr Pemberton's home, causing damage worth £270. He was holding a claw hammer and threatened to kill him.

The same night, he went to a premises known as Wedding Belles, and stole wedding dresses and

jewellery worth £1,600.

He then stole a quantity of meat worth £70 from a butcher's premises in Kenfig Hill.

He later said he wanted the meat for his wedding. On both burglaries, he was accompanied by a friend, said Mr Bushell.

Andrew Taylor, his counsel, said: "He is realistic about how serious his offending has been. When he went to Mr Pemberton's house, he maintains he was owed money."

"At the time, he was taking a cocktail of Valium and alcohol, and could not think straight."

Recorder Gwilym Rees said Campbell attacked Mr Pemberton because he had a grudge against him. At the time he had a claw hammer.

The judge made a restraining order, preventing Campbell from contacting Mr Pemberton for two years.

'A BUSY DAY FOR PORTHCAWL'

See Keith E Morgan's report and pictures on page 15.



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Quiz League posers

HERE are your specials for this week:

1. Which winner of the Nobel Peace Prize lost his seat in the House of Commons in the 2005 general election?

2. What name is given to the official who summons the members of the House of Commons to the House of Lords to witness the Queen's speech at the opening of Parliament?

3. Which English spin bowler who died aged 65 in 1995 claimed 174 Test

wickets and holds the record for making the most number of runs in first-class cricket without scoring a century?

4. What kind of animals figure largely in the book Watership Down?

A RUDGE (for Quiz League)

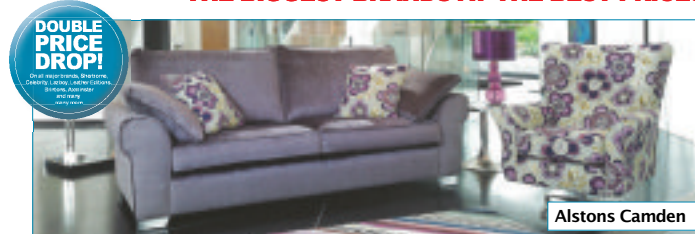
4. Rabbits.
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Gentleman
2. Black Rod
1. David Tumble.
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YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS IN YOUR AREA

Disadvantaged youngsters

I AM becoming concerned that premises controlled by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) are becoming inaccessible to disadvantaged children in the borough.

These premises have been paid for by the taxpayers, are staffed by employees whose wages are paid for by the taxpayer, and costs of maintenance are also paid for by the taxpayer.

I wonder if council officials are aware of the difficulties caused within the community? Children's organisations run by volunteers are being asked for inflated rents, some parents cannot afford to pay these increased charges, and children have to leave.

They are forced to meet their friends on street corners, become bored and disruptive. All the good work which had been achieved by these volunteers is going to waste. The cost of vandalism increases and the taxpayer is forced to pay. I would ask these

officials to reconsider their decisions before it is too late.

Aberkenfig and District WI

PRESIDENT Eunice Williams welcomed members and visitor Sandra Parry to the last meeting before the summer break.

'Happy Birthday' was sung to Irene Burgess, Maureen Pearce and Dilys Mitchell (July) and Betty Samuel and Dorothy Kingston (August).

The speaker, Marjorie Page, told of the life and career of Clarice Cliff – the perfect example of a working class girl who made good.

Clarice was one of seven children, living in Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire. She was a bright girl and started work with a seven year apprenticeship at 13 years of age.

In 1916, she went to work for AJ Wilkinson's Brothers, alongside two designers. Clarice moved on to become a modeller at a salary of 22 shillings (old money) a week in 1924, the year of the British Empire Exhibition.

In 1927, Wilkinson's acquired a new factory

and Clarice got her own studio, in which she came up with the 'Bizarre' range of designs and eventually she was appointed art director of the factory.

In December 1940 she married Colley, who was 17 years older than her, a year after his wife died. Clarice gave up her work after the war; her husband retired at the age of 79 and died in 1963 aged 81. Clarice died in 1972 aged 64.

Gillian Williams gave the vote of thanks.

The members were pleased to see that Aberkenfig WI had a mention in the Glamorgan WI Newsletter.

The raffle was won by Joanne Davies and the competition for an item beginning with the letter 'S', was won by Irene Burgess with a pretty little shoe. There will be 12 members attending the Murder Mystery evening in the Hi-Tide in Porthcawl on October 3, and 22 members will be going on the Brecon Mountain Railway trip on August 13.

The branch meets on the second Wednesday of each month, except August, at 2pm. The speaker for the next

meeting will be Jan Lewis whose subject is the 'History of Hats'.

The meeting will be held in the new venue at the Len Evans Centre in Heol Persondy (opposite Pandy Road School). New members welcome.

Further information from Dilys on 01656 725399, or visit www.cobwebs.com.

Joint services IT has been decided by the parishioners that joint services for the parish of Llansantffraid, Betws and Aberkenfig will be held in August to cover the holiday period.

All services start at 10am, from August 3 at St David's, Betws; August 10: St Bride's, Llansantffraid; August 17: St John's, Aberkenfig; August 24: St David's, Betws; August 31: St Bride's, Llansantffraid.

Visitor centre STAFF and volunteers at the Welsh Wildlife Trust in Parc Slip nature reserve, Fountain Road, Tondur, have decided that the visitor centre will now also be open on Mondays from 10am to 4pm through the school summer holiday period.

The trust has received

a donation of 30 opera glasses from the 'London Opera Glass' company. These glasses are ideal for use by children as they do not need to be focused.

Silver

anniversary CÔR Merched Cwm Llynfi (Llynfi Valley Ladies Choir) will be holding its silver anniversary 25th annual concert on September 19 in Maesteg town hall at 7pm.

Musical director Paul Deenik-Bradley is married to accompanist Laura, and the happy pair recently celebrated the birth of their first child.

The choir is a non-auditioning ladies' choir of over 30 voices. One does not have to speak Welsh to be a member, or be able to read music.

Anyone interested in joining Côr Merched Cwm Llynfi can go along to its rehearsal venue – the Celtic Club, Garth, Maesteg, every Wednesday at 7pm.

Rhyddian's cheque

MAESTEG 'Gleemen' male voice choir members, in recognition of Rhyddian Jenkins' achievements,

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of THE GEM: If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me. I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
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have presented him with a cheque for £100.

A pupil at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, he has recently won events at Llangollen International Eisteddfod and the Urdd Eisteddfod.

Rhyddian has also been selected to go to Patagonia as a representative of the Welsh Urdd, to compete in that country's national festival.

While in Patagonia, Rhyddian hopes to volunteer to help disabled children, and is looking for sponsors to help him with his expenses so that he can spend more time with these children.

Life Centre BETHLEHEM Church Life Centre, Cefn Cribwr will be open for youngsters aged 11 – 16 between 7pm and 9pm on

August 4, 8, 11 and 15 for various activities.

To entertain children aged 4 – 11 it is open from 10.30am to 1pm on Mondays, August 4 and 11; and 10.30am to 12.30pm Tuesday to Friday until August 15.

Bible Club HOLIDAY Bible Club is open to all children aged 5 – 13 at Horeb Baptist Chapel, Dinam Close, Nantymoel.

The club will be open every Thursday until August 31 in the chapel from 4.30pm to 6.30 pm. The children will

be told exciting stories, learn different crafts, play games with competitions and prizes. There will also be snacks available at the club.

Centenary

TOMORROW, Friday August 1 there is a concert at Bryncethin Memorial Hall to mark the 100th anniversary of the start of World War One, beginning at 7pm; with local stalwart Felicity Watkins as compère. Tickets £2 at the door.

Newton fayre

THERE will be a summer fayre at Newton Institute, Porthcawl, on Saturday, August 2 at 2pm.

Admission 50p, includes tea/coffee and biscuits; raffle, cake stall, tombola, bric-a-brac, books, clothes.

All funds go towards the upkeep of the hall, which is available for hire.

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BRYNTEG STUDENTS' PLAN TO CHANGE STEREOTYPES!

RIGHT:
Brynteg Comprehensive School students are pictured waiting to welcome their guests from 'Contact the Elderly'.

THE following report was written by Brynteg Comprehensive student, Charlotte Ironside.

BRYNTEG School is well-known for its accomplishments in sport, smartly-presented and well-behaved pupils, involvement in the community – and, most of all, their consistently high grades among its GCSE and A-Level students.

However, there is one thing they haven't quite been able to achieve.

Despite their respectful, diligent and academically 'high-flying' pupils' reputation, they still haven't managed to change the perception of the younger generation as a whole, something they

passionately wanted to change.

A combination of magazines and television has given negative labels of adolescents in today's community, while underplaying the positive aspects.

Stars such as Miley Cyrus and Justin Bieber, dominate the media, giving them stereotypes such as 'violent' and 'stupid'.

The public naturally absorbs this, forgetting that it's a generalisation and that not all young people today are similar.

So when the organisation 'Contact the Elderly' (which was designed for people who live on their own to socialise with others in a similar situation) got in touch with Brynteg asking to hold a gathering at the school, they couldn't turn it down!

They then handed it over to their student community committee, a new scheme put in place to raise money for charity, as well as



fundraise for the school.

It gave Brynteg the chance to eliminate the negative perceptions of the younger generation today.

Therefore earlier this month, Brynteg invited the group and some of their carers to meet sixth form students.

The sixth form students involved, Alice Stride, Deni Roberts, Alex Pearce, Charlotte Ironside, Katie Kwan, Abbey Parsons, Beth Williams, and Bronwyn Wictcome, along with guidance from their teacher Mrs Susan Hawthorne, spent

weeks planning and preparing the afternoon, organising decoration, food, and entertainment for their guests.

The students volunteered to take time out of their already hectic schedules to bake cakes for them, and design decorations, such as flower ornaments and a welcome banner, in the hope of pleasing their visitors – and to show that not all teenagers have a hobby of loitering in their free time!

There was entertainment too, with outstanding performances from

year-12's Emily March, year-10's Ella Edwards, and others.

This was an added touch that the members of 'Contact the Elderly' greatly enjoyed and appreciated.

Obviously the event wasn't just to entertain and demonstrate the sixth form's baking skills, but to introduce the pupils to members of the organisation.

Throughout the two hours that they were there, the pupils and the older generation enjoyed each other's company, with the visitors learning about what school life is like in today's society and

the aspirations of many of the pupils, and the students being educated on the 'good old days', what life was like before Facebook and Twitter, and even picking up on how to use guineas and shillings!

Overall, the evening was a great success, with many of the individuals who visited Brynteg commenting afterwards on the politeness and the friendliness of the students they spoke to. ...And there was not one negative label in sight!

CHARLOTTE IRONSIDE



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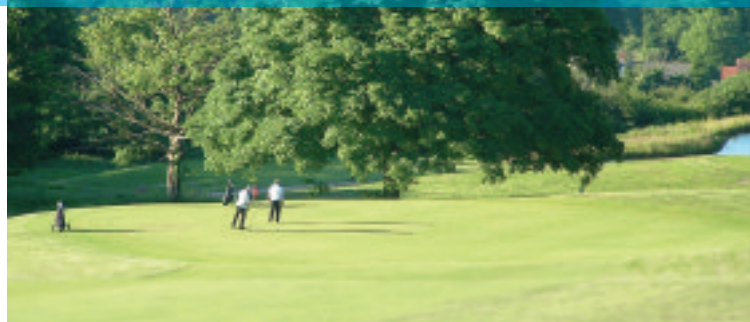
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"Their purpose-built marquee which caters for weddings and celebrations of up to 350 people has been a massive hit. When the chance came to become the in-house caterers at Cottrell Park we jumped at it."

Together the caterer and the Golf Club have turned the 400 acre Cottrell Park into a dining destination for devotees of good food from miles around.

Enjoy a full Welsh breakfast or a pork and leek

sausage baguette to kick start your morning of golf, or relax in Merricks Restaurant with a late lunch with a hearty selection of curries, steaks, burgers, pies and fish and chips.

Traditional Sunday lunches with all the trimmings are also hugely popular with members and visitors alike.

As a venue Cottrell Park Resort offers golfing, business, wedding and leisure facilities including two championship-maintained golf courses, event, conferencing and meeting rooms, team building and training activities, a restaurant and bar, a nature trail, and golf and grand prix simulators.



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Think of catering at most local golf clubs and your expectations may not be very high, and rarely extend beyond standard pub fayre in the members' bar.

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"This year we are very excited to be hosting our Magical Winter Wonderland at Cottrell Park," said Spiro.

The marquee will be transformed into a magical experience and is available for all winter celebrations from corporate functions to private parties including exclusive hire for winter weddings."

For further information or to check availability please contact the Events Team on 01446 781781 who will be happy to discuss your requirement.

Betty looks back on 90 years in Kenfig Hill



Betty (fourth from right) flanked by her nieces Jennifer and Barbara with (from left) her eldest son David; Mike, and his wife Barbara (fourth left, next to her sister Gill – Betty's cousins); Richard (third left, Betty's nephew on her husband's side, and his sister Kay, second from right); and finally Betty's youngest son Stephen.



Betty with her great-grandchildren: Max (standing on chair), Lucas, Leo and Isla.



LEFT: Betty, centre, with her grandson James and his wife Emily, and her great-grandchildren Lucas and Isla

LIFELONG Kenfig Hill and Pyle resident Betty Harrison celebrated her 90th birthday at the Grove Golf Club in North Cernelly on Tuesday, July 22.

About 80 close friends and family from as far afield as Dubai and Stockholm joined in the celebrations for Betty, who was born at 38, Bridge Street, Kenfig Hill, in 1924, next door to the family-owned Temperance Hotel.

The youngest of David Edward Dethloff and Beatrice Maud David's four children, Betty grew up in Kenfig Hill and on April 12, 1945, married Phil, the youngest of Jim and Doris Harrison's three children, who were also from the borough.

On February 1, 1946, Betty and Phil had their first son David and briefly lived on Stormy Down

before moving to the family home at 75, Marlus Road, Pyle, where she lived until 2013.

After a long period of illness, Betty gave birth to her second son, Stephen, in November 1960 and during more than 60 years in Marlus Road, she developed a close bond with her neighbours.

David moved to Leicestershire to teach and had two spells in Germany before Phil died in 1978.

Having a large family in the area and such good friends nearby were a huge comfort to Betty at this time, and they were a great support for her when Stephen left for university in Nottingham a year later, and soon followed David to Hong Kong.

Both sons returned to the UK to live in the Cardiff area at the turn of the millennium, by which time Betty had six grandchildren, who had come to know Doug Morgan, Betty's partner for more than 25 years,

as Grandad Doug.

It was a huge wrench for Betty and Doug to move to Llys Ton in Kenfig Hill in 2013 and an even bigger wrench for her when Doug sadly passed away four months later.

However, a year on Betty is making the best of the latest chapter in her long life and has made new friends at Llys Ton, less than 500 metres from where she was born more than 90 years ago.

It was a huge delight for her to reunite so many friends and family on July 22 to celebrate her lifetime in the borough and, with the weather doing its bit to help, and staff at The Grove proving wonderful hosts, Betty had a marvellous time and is now looking forward to celebrating an even bigger landmark at the same venue in July 2024.

STEVE HARRISON

VILLAGERS REMEMBER CAPTAIN TOM CLARKE



Villagers in Miskin came together to raise money for an Armed Forces' charity in memory of Captain Tom Clarke, of Cowbridge. The cheque presentation took place last week, and pictured above at the Miskin War Memorial is Colonel Kevin Davies (front left) with Colin Ferris and Wayne Dalton, and the Minnesingers, with musical director Meryn Williams.

by PHILIP IRWIN

THE tragic death of Captain Tom Clarke from Cowbridge, who was killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan in April, touched people in the Vale deeply.

In the aftermath, villagers in Miskin decided to do something to honour his memory, and set about raising funds for the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF).

Two local women who stepped forward to organise an event were Sue Palmer and Deb Thomas. Deb was particularly keen to do something as she was a friend of Tom's family.

They approached the landlords of the Miskin Arms, Colin Ferris and

Wayne Dalton, with plans for an evening's entertainment at the pub, and they readily agreed. Local band RHM, made up of vocalist Hollie Willis, guitarist Ralph Evans, and Malc Charney on keyboards, offered their services for free.

Indeed, they were prepared to play a long set, starting around 8pm and finishing at 10.30pm.

Sue and Deb were looking for another act to keep everyone entertained until midnight, and they were delighted when the Minnesingers Male Chorus – a locally-based choir – stepped forward to do a late night shift.

Meryn Williams, the

musical director of the Minnesingers, said that the choir had been formed about 12 years ago, and had been delighted to perform for such a cause.

Miskin, after all, was a little closer to home than their previous concert – in Valencia!

The evening proved to be a great success and, as a result, Colonel Kevin Davies, the Deputy Commander of 160 (Wales) Brigade in Brecon, met the group at the Miskin Arms to receive a cheque for £610.

He thanked the group for their efforts, adding that, as a Cowbridge resident himself, he was only too aware of the

impact of the tragedy. Another of the crash victims, Lance Corporal Oliver Thomas, also had strong family connections in the Vale.

Col Davies talked about the work done by the Army Benevolent Fund, and explained how it helped to fund other Forces' charities, in particular SSAFA and Combat Stress.

The Minnesingers came along to perform after the cheque was handed over, and Deb Thomas said: "It was great that they came along tonight. Our thanks go to them, and also to Colin and Wayne letting us use the Miskin Arms."

"Finally, I would like to thank Sue Palmer. She started the ball rolling and has worked so hard to make it all happen."

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Bearded dragon is called Bert!

BRIDGEND Communities First recently got off to a wild start to their summer programme of activities, when the **Nearly Wild Show** came to Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen in Tondur, to show young people an assortment of animals.

These included snakes, lizards, mice, chinchillas, an owl, a bearded dragon called 'Bert' – and even cockroaches and a tarantula!

The Welsh Government-funded Bridgend Communities First's summer programme is free of charge to anyone living in its postcode areas in Bridgend county borough. There is plenty to see and do throughout the summer, whatever your age.

Activities include a summer school activities programme for young people in year-6, including children's entertainment, a rock academy music workshop, literacy and media tour at Cardiff FC and a trip to Techniquet.

Free to all children who attend Halo Leisure's summer playscheme in Ogmere Valley Life Centre, the

Show Racism the Red Card workshop and football tournament will show young people what hate crime is and how to stop it.

Computer sessions are available to people who have no computer experience or need brushing up on their existing skills and you will be able to find out about internet safety and get help on how to keep you and your children safe online.

Worried about debt?

Concerned about managing the cost of Christmas? The Citizens Advice Bureau and Bridgend Life Savers Credit Union will be able to answer your money-related questions.

Get a lifestyle check to find out how to improve your lifestyle and how to minimise your health risks, and find out how to make cheap and easy meals, including healthy lunchbox advice.

With fun days, football and basketball sessions, garden open day and a BMX Race Day – there is plenty to do this summer with Bridgend Communities First's summer activity programme!

For further details, call 01656 643514, or visit the 'What's on' page at: www.commfirst@bridge.nd.co.uk.

Local author lands top crime writing award

A crime novel launched at Cowbridge Book Festival by best-selling author **Belinda Bauer** has won a major literary award, writes **TIM CHAPMAN**.

'Rubberneck' took the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year award at the Harrogate crime writing festival recently.

It establishes Belinda, who lives near Cowbridge, in the first rank of popular crime novelists.

Judges described her book as "extraordinary, original and compelling". Past winners of the award have included Lee Child and Val McDermid.

Belinda told The GEM: "It is a wonderful victory for me and for Wales, and just goes to show that there are no boundaries when it comes to a good story."

"I've lived here longer than I've lived anywhere, and returning to my student days through the eyes of my hero, Patrick Fort, was a pleasure."

But for Belinda it wasn't just a case of creating an exciting story, she wanted to make it as authentic as possible and that involved doing extensive background research.

"Patrick is a medical student at Cardiff University, who believes the body he's dissecting in anatomy class might be a murder victim. I had to do so much medical research I should have taken exams!"

"I had lots of help from the university – and reading groups and libraries in the Vale have been very enthusiastic about my books, so it's nice that all that local support has translated into a prestigious international prize."



Belinda – back in Cowbridge with the 'literary barrel', The Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award.

"I know lots of local people voted for me, so a big 'Thank You' to all of them."

Belinda shot to literary fame when she won the CWA Gold Dagger for her debut novel *Blacklands* four years ago.

Since then, she has been a regular visitor to the Cowbridge Book Festival. The organiser of the festival, Stella Cheeseman, said she was thrilled by Belinda's latest success.

She said: "I was delighted to hear that Belinda had won this prestigious award. Delighted, but not surprised!"

"She creates the most unlikely heroes that the reader cares about and then places them in the most gripping and original stories that we can't put down."

"Clearly, Belinda Bauer is a name we should look out for in the future." Belinda carried off a prize of £3,000 and the award, a small hand-carved oak beer cask.

Success at the show!



Making the trip to the Royal Welsh Show recently were

Mrs Elizabeth Matthews and her granddaughter, Siwan Clarke of Treoes (left). Their journey was well worthwhile, as their sheep were awarded a highly commended prize in the Cornella Poll Dorset Sheep category.

PHOTO BY GLYN EVANS.

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'LET'S NOT SPOIL FAMILY FUN ON THE BEACHES' – GEM READER

I AM writing regarding a minor incident which occurred today (Friday, July 25) when as a Barry family of four, we arrived at Southerndown beach at midday ready for a fun afternoon on the beach.



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(Please be seated by 10.55am)

We set up camp in an area which was not overpopulated but had a few families dotted around.

After a short time, we decided to play a game of rounders just in front of our tent. It was hilarious and great fun until a lady returned to her umbrella and beach towel, obviously unhappy we were playing in her area.

As the sponge ball rolled onto her blanket, obviously annoyed, she asked us why, when the beach was so large, did we choose to play near her? Her manner was unpleasant and rude and we stopped playing instantly.

I chose not to reply, partly because I believe she had embarrassed herself sufficiently and also, as children were in the vicinity, I did not want to cause a scene.

The reason for my letter is this: it's the first week of the school

summer holidays and we are basking in the unusually hot summer.

How many parents are desperate to have time off work to enjoy these precious days with their children? Surely if anyone chooses to go to the beach during these holidays, they must expect families to be enjoying in games all over the sand.

Plus, families have every right to play wherever they want – after all, as individuals we do not own the beach. As a 44-year-old mother of two, I have spent many a happy day at the seaside being splashed, being hit by stray balls, being run into and have even fallen over running children!

It's the beach – it's fine to have fun and be a family in the company of hundreds of other people.

I feel the lady at Southerndown (who was accompanied by another lady and a small child), should have been thrilled to see a family enjoying themselves away from

electronic gadgets and televisions.

Summer holidays are a time to embrace the joy a family feels when spending time together, it is not the time to covet a piece of sand and be selfish enough to stop their enjoyment.

Let's enjoy the sun and school summer holidays; let children be children, and families spend quality time together on a beach playing a ball game.

The lady didn't spoil our afternoon – as a family, we enjoy each

other's company whatever we're doing.

But please, if you visit the beach this summer expect ball games, laughter and families having fun, so please don't spoil their holidays by being so grumpy.

Instead, let's practice community spirit and encourage families to enjoy our beautiful local beaches.

In my opinion, it's the best day out a family can have.
Name and address supplied.

Witnesses sought after death of cyclist

SOUTH Wales Police are appealing for witnesses, after a cyclist died following an accident around 5.40pm on Wednesday, July 16 in Penarth.

The rider, Martin Trinder, aged 25, from Cardiff was cycling along St Augustine's Crescent, going down a steep hill towards St Augustine Road, when he appears to have lost control and fallen,

causing himself serious injuries.

Mr Trinder was taken to University Hospital Wales, and remained there until July 22, where he died from his injuries.

South Wales Police are asking for anyone who may have witnessed the accident, or anyone with information connected to the incident, to contact them on 101 quoting reference number 1400256228.

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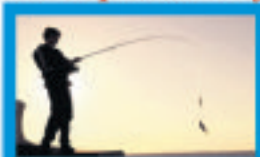
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LETTER

'Not in favour of a merger'

SO a new poll of more than 600 residents has revealed there is strong opposition to the merger of Cardiff and Vale Councils. I am really not surprised because this would have a detrimental impact on Barry and the rest of the Vale.

It is now important that we all take notice of this opposition because it is clear the residents of the Vale do not want it.

I have to agree that we would lose our local identity, have less accountability and my concern is that Cardiff would dump their 40,000 plus housing allocation here in the Vale.

A two-thirds majority cannot be wrong and I have consistently objected to these proposals and will continue to do so. The public has spoken in a poll, so how about a proper referendum to decide?

If it is allowed to go ahead, this would be yet another Labour letdown because although costs must be brought down, a merger with Cardiff is certainly not the way forward.

We must now all continue in our fight against this proposal!
Coun Richard Bertin,
Independent councillor.

2,000 are on waiting list for scans at local hospital

ALMOST 2,000 people are waiting for scans at the Princess of Wales hospital in Bridgend; they are among nearly 7,000 awaiting scans in hospitals across the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health Board area – it was claimed this week.

The figures were obtained by a Welsh Conservative regional AM, Suzy Davies, using a Freedom of Information request.

She said that the board had stated the number of people waiting in Bridgend for an ultra sound scan is 1,003, with 516 waiting for an MRI scan and a further 322 waiting for a CT scan. These are all outpatient referrals.

The average waiting time at the moment was up to seven weeks for an MRI scan and between five and six weeks for the others.

The board said that the maximum waiting time under targets set by Welsh Government for

routine outpatient referrals is eight weeks. But cases classed as urgent for things like suspected cancers are usually scanned and reported within ten working days.

Mrs Davies is urging the health board to introduce weekend scanning at all its hospitals in a bid to reduce waiting times for outpatients and also deal with in-patients who are often kept in hospital waiting for a scan.

Mrs Davies reported that a constituent of hers was detained recently in Princess of Wales Hospital from Friday until Tuesday, awaiting an ultra sound scan.

"This lady was in extreme pain and on morphine during this time. She managed to get a CT scan on the Friday, but was told that there was no scanning available over the weekend or the bank holiday Monday. She was not scanned until the Tuesday and was subsequently operated on at the hospital.

"The four days that she spent occupying a valuable hospital bed just because of a scanning delay is a waste of NHS resources. If she had been scanned over that weekend, she could have been operated on immediately and then discharged, freeing up her bed.

"As it was, it took until the Friday for her to have the operation.

"Apart from the fact that she was in a lot of pain, there are serious financial considerations.

"In my view, purely from an economic standpoint, it would be better value for the NHS to put on scanning sessions at weekends to deal with urgent in-patient cases at least and then free up beds more quickly.

"The knock-on effects of bed blocking are behind many of the problems in the Welsh NHS today. People are either stuck in A&E waiting for a bed or queuing up in ambulances outside the emergency departments.

"This also affects ambulance response times as they are not available to deal with emergency calls if they are stacked up outside hospitals for hours on end.

"NHS managers must get a grip and act to remove these blockages in the system," she stated.

The health board is adamant that emergency scanning is available 24/7 365 days a year to deal with urgent requests for radiological investigations, and that scanners are never unmanned.

Mrs Davies added: "If that is the case, why was my constituent left in agony for days waiting for a scan? She was told that scanners were not available over the bank holiday.

"If that is not the case, why was she told this, and why was she kept waiting four days for a simple ultra sound scan? It just does not add up."

Mrs Davies said she would be pursuing the issue of weekend scanning with ABMu.

BRIDGEND UNIT SOLD FOR £40,000

A COMMERCIAL unit in floor unit, on Wyndham Street, Bridgend has been sold for £40,000 – double its guide price at auction – to an unnamed woman entrepreneur.

The auction, by selling agent John Francis at Swansea's Liberty Stadium, comprised two ground floor retail spaces, with accompanying offices, store rooms and garage space to the rear, which could be divided into three, raised combined sales of almost £1.1million. In total, 15 of the 20 lots were sold, at an average price of over £70,000 per lot.

A spokesperson stated: "The ground

unit was purchased by a young female entrepreneur, who is returning to the area to set up a business."

Tories' choice for general election



Meirion Jenkins.

BRIDGEND-born Meirion Jenkins has been selected by Bridgend Conservatives as their candidate at the general election next year.

Father of four, Meirion went to school in Ynysawdre and then studied accountancy at university.

He trained as an accountant in the motor industry before moving into software and IT.

He has over 25 years' experience of the software industry, mostly running his own national IT companies.

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From 9pm each night.

26 & 27 July Street Music Weekender

All That Jazz, The Bucket Band, The Rock Choir, Wonderbrass and Samba Galez. **From 12noon each day.**

2 & 3 August Street Theatre Weekender

Shows start at 12noon each day with performances throughout the afternoon.

Sunday 10 August World War I Commemoration Day

Barry Island Gardens will be home to a British WW1 soldier's encampment.

From 11am to 5pm

16 & 17 August Sport, Art and Play Weekender

Beach sports, climbing wall, Play Village and graffiti workshops.

11am to 4pm each day.

23 & 24 August Cinema by the Sea Weekender

SAT - THE GOONIES

SUN - MAMMA MIA

From 8:30pm each night

30 & 31 August Barry Wartime Weekend

Experience WW1 and WW2 living history encampments plus

SAT - Red Arrows Display

SUN - BBMF Dakota fly past

Event takes place at Barry Island Railway Station and Hood Rd

Bring a picnic, blanket or low backed chair. Deckchairs available to hire



Events take place on the prom or gardens and may change at short notice.

For more information please call **01446 704737** or go to **www.visitthevale.com** @visitthevale

LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST TO BENEFIT AS... GEM article inspires reader to donate her locks to charity



Samantha with her plait (left) and (right) less than half an hour later, the job is complete and the Trust is set to benefit.

A recent GEM article inspired one of our readers to take the plunge – and donate her hair to the Little Princess Trust.

Samantha Liscombe from Barry had her hair cut in Newcastle and has forwarded her locks on to the trust.

The trust provides real-hair wigs, free of charge, to boys and girls across the UK and Ireland that have lost their own hair through cancer treatment.

Samantha said: "Reading an article in The GEM recently, inspired me to donate hair to the Little Princess Trust. "I hadn't thought my hair would be long enough but seeing the lady in the

paper bravely having her hair cut, I knew I could do it, too.

"I've gone a lot shorter than I had first envisioned, but it is such a great cause that I'm just happy to have been able to help.

"My foot-long plait has already been sent off to the trust, and I'm over-the-moon with the amount of money I've raised so far and am hoping it will keep growing."

For children already suffering from cancer, losing hair can be very upsetting. For more information on the work of the trust, go to: www.littleprincesses.org.uk

Poll says 'No' to a Vale-Cardiff merger

A POLL of over 600 residents in Cardiff and the Vale has revealed strong opposition to Welsh Government plans for a merger of the two local authorities.

The poll, which was undertaken online and via telephone, found that almost two thirds (63.5 per cent) oppose the proposals to merge Cardiff with the Vale of Glamorgan. Just one in four support Welsh Labour's plans.

Respondents gave a range of reasons for their opposition, with one claiming that "council tax would rise"; another worried that communities in both areas would "lose local identity"; while another feared that "increasing the size of the local authority boundary would make councillors less accountable to their constituents".

One Vale of Glamorgan resident also expressed concern that a merger with Cardiff would lead to increased development on the Vale's green spaces.

The poll received 608 responses.

Regional AM, Andrew RT Davies, commented: "I have consistently expressed my own concerns, not just as a politician, but as a resident of the Vale, over these plans. It appears that residents in both Cardiff and the Vale are far from enthusiastic about Welsh Labour's plans to create a 'Greater Cardiff' authority.

"We all understand that the cost of politics needs to be brought down, but the wider Williams' proposals need to be considered sensibly on a case-by-case basis. Clearly, these proposals are not welcomed by the vast majority of local residents."

'Foodbanks sad indictment of cost of living crisis'

PROSPECTIVE Labour parliamentary candidate for the Vale, Chris Elmore, recently volunteered at the Vale Foodbank, taking donations in Tesco, in Barry.

"It is very concerning to see the number of families who are turning to foodbanks for support. Around 7,000 people from right across the Vale have now relied upon foodbanks since 2010," he said.

"Volunteers from across the Vale work so incredibly hard to help those in need and I was struck by their dedication and passion for helping those who are vulnerable.

"Spiralling energy costs, the rise in VAT and cuts to working tax credits have put thousands of families from right across the county on the brink.

"It is also shocking that of the 7,000 who have desperately turned to foodbanks, 3,000 are children," Mr Elmore pointed out.

"I was bitterly disappointed to hear that Tory ministers have refused to meet with the Trussell Trust, who operate the vast majority



of foodbanks across the country.

"The more that they continue to put their heads in the sand, the more children will go hungry. They should at least come to the table and acknowledge there is an urgent problem that needs fixing."

The Trussell Trust operates three foodbanks in the Vale of Glamorgan – in Barry, Dinas Powys and Llantwit Major – which have all opened since 2010.

Foodbank use has risen by 43 per cent in one year. Across Wales, 79,000 have used foodbanks.

Just under one million people used foodbanks in the UK in the past year.

CATFEST'S RECORD BID

CATS Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre is urging local people to join a cat-themed Guinness World Record attempt at Catfest 2014, on August 16.

"Taking place at the adoption centre on Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Catfest 2014 will see hopeful record breakers celebrating the centre's 20th anniversary by attempting to set the record for the largest gathering of people dressed as cats," a spokeswoman explained.

"Would-be moggies will not only have the chance to don their best feline garb, but will also have the opportunity to enjoy the many other attractions available on the day between 10.30am and 4pm."



Entrance to the record-breaking event is £1 for adults, and 50p for children, with all money going to charity; the record attempt takes place between 2pm – 3pm.

For more information about the event, call 01656 723496, visit www.bridgend.cats.org.uk or turn up from 10.30am on August 16.

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Inspiring nurse Tiffany battling cancer wins an achievement award



WORKED ON THROUGH CHEMO TREATMENT!

A BRIDGEND nurse who is still continuing to work while battling cancer – has won an adult achievement award.

Mum Tiffany Morgan-Ashcroft (48) works in the Princess of Wales Hospital's urology department and six years ago was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma, which affects the lymphatic system.

Despite needing six months of chemotherapy, Tiffany (pictured left) carried on working.

And she didn't stop there – she also took up martial art Tang Soo Do, recently achieving her black tag.

The cancer has now returned, but Tiffany is refusing to let it slow her down. As well as going to work, she is starting her own Scout troop.

Tiffany has won Bridge FM's Outstanding Adult Achievement award, following a nomination by her husband, James.

Tiffany, from Broadlands, said: "I'm still in shock and I can't believe I have won. I'm just doing what anyone would do and don't see it as anything special.

"It's not in my nature to relax, and if I did, it would give me time to think and I would be frightened. Keeping busy keeps my mind busy.

"I have to forget I'm ill, and get

on with life, especially as I have a nine-year-old son.

"I'm a positive person, which helps me get through, but so does going to work. If I couldn't do that, I would just dwindle away.

"It encourages me to get up each morning. Chemo leaves me feeling tired and I could easily stay in bed, but carrying on working gives me a purpose."

Urology department sister Gaynor Newton said: "I was thrilled to hear Tiffany had won an award as she is a courageous, amazing woman.

"She always has a smile on her face and gives 110 per cent to everything she does.

"You never hear her complain or moan and wouldn't be able to tell by looking at her that she has non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

"Tiffany is dedicated to her job and is absolutely wonderful with the patients.

"She is very supportive and has a terrific sense of humour. All the staff in the department, including the consultants, love her.

"She thoroughly deserves the recognition she has received."

LUCY THE LEAP IS LOOKING FOR LOVE

DOGS Trust Bridgend is appealing to local dog-loving sports fans to help find a home for a talented four-legged athlete!

Staffordshire Bull Terrier Lucy Lou is known at the Rehoming Centre not only for her good looks, but for her athletic prowess.

This very energetic lady has been nicknamed 'Lucy the Leap', after Bridgend's former long jump legend Lyn 'The Leap' Davies, and staff hope her talents will help her win the ultimate prize in the form of a loving new home.

Playful pooch Lucy Lou was handed in when her owner was sadly no longer able to care for her, and is looking for a new best friend to play endless games of chase.

Two-year-old Lucy is a fetch fanatic who will bound after anything, be it a ball or a discus – and over anything too!

She is a real heptathlete, who would love an active owner to help continue her agility training.

Beverly Price, Dogs Trust Bridgend rehoming centre manager, said: "Lucy Lou is a golden girl who would make the perfect pet in the right home. She needs to live with

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Tel 01656 725219)



Lucy the Leap in action!

active, adult owners who have experience of her breed and will take the time to get to know her.

"She is still young and just like any athlete, she could do with extra training which will help her settle and become part of the family.

"Lucy Lou can live with a compatible dog able to keep up with her zest for life... Whether you are training for the Commonwealth games, or just enjoy long rambling walks, Lucy Lou could be the girl for you."

Anyone interested in

offering Lucy a new home should call Dogs Trust Bridgend on 01656 725 219 or visit www.dogstrust.org.uk Dogs Trust Bridgend has dogs of all shapes and sizes looking for homes and, when matching dogs with new owners, staff will consider a wide range of homes and circumstances providing that they will fit the requirements of the dog and provide them with a loving lasting home.

LINDA FEAGAN,
Supporter Relations
Officer

CAR PARK DISPUTE:

Police issue appeal

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following a dispute between two men on Sunday, July 13, around 2.30pm in the car park at Southerndown.

They wish to speak to two male bikers who were present at the time, and may have witnessed the incident near a fish and chip van in the car park.

Call South Wales Police on 101 (quoting reference number 1400251926); free and via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, or through website www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information.

TOY AND TRAIN FAIR

THIS Sunday (August 3) Barry Tourist Railway is holding a toy and train fair at Barry Island Station between 10.30am and 3.30pm.

There will be a wide range of vintage toys on offer from 60 stallholders. A full-sized heritage diesel railcar will also be offering rides and shed visits to visitors on the Barry Tourist Railway.

Contact John Buxton, director, on 07595 023749.

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| 27/8/2014 | Wednesday | Buith Wells | £14.00 | £13.00 |
| 17/9/2014 | Wednesday | Carmarthen Market & Tenby | £9.50 | £9.00 |
| 20/9/2014 | Saturday | Bath City Centre | £7.50 | £7.00 |
| 03/10/2014 | Friday | Cotswolds 4 Day Short Break Weekend | £171.50 | £171.50 |
| 12/11/2014 | Wednesday | Carmarthen Market | £9.50 | £9.00 |
| 29/11/2014 | Saturday | Worcester Xmas Fayre | £13.75 | £13.00 |
| 30/11/2014 | Saturday | Ludlow Medieval Xmas | £15.00 | £14.00 |
| 07/12/2014 | Sunday | Bath Xmas Market | £13.75 | £12.75 |

Additional Summer, Autumn & Winter dates will be added to our full 2014 programme. Minimum passenger numbers are required, therefore early reservation is essential. Local pickups throughout South Wales.

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IT'S A 'RIVIERA' DAY IN PORTHCAWL AS THE TOWN IS PACKED WITH VISITORS

**Report and photographs
by Keith E Morgan**

LAST Saturday, you could have easily imagined that you were on the French Riviera as the temperatures in Porthcawl were high throughout the day.

The sun scorched down from a clear blue cloudless sky for a good 12 hours and what little breeze there was, coming off the almost wave-less duck pond sea, was very welcome.

It was a busy day in Porthcawl, as not only was the seniors' golf tournament being held at the Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, but it was also Sea Festival Day in the town.

There were coloured stalls and side shows stretching along the Promenade from the Pier Hotel to the Seabank Hotel.

Starting at 10.45am with the sea festival opening speech by the Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Sean Asprey in All Saints Church, there followed a full day of events and entertainment in the church itself.

These ranged from floral shows and demonstrations by Maureen Fergie, to a violin and piano duet by Les Thomas and David Cox with choral singing by Col Canto, pupils of Patricia O'Neill, Kenfig Hill Male Choir and Lleisau Hardd Children's Choir.

Wayne Warlow kept a balance with 'Some Jazz' while during the afternoon, the Porthcawl Accordion Band performed in the church hall.

Out in the town, the entertainment came thick and fast, starting with the Ogmere Valley Silver Band. They were followed with Punch and Judy shows and demonstrations of Welsh folk dancing by Dawnsyr Gwerin Pen-y-Fai.

The Bavarian Band played their part, leading up to a Teddy Bear's Picnic, while the Porthcawl Ukulele Band brought a wonderful day to a close with a sing-along which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Throughout the day, an open topped double decker bus from the Swansea Omnibus Museum was on duty, providing a free passenger sightseeing tour from Trecco Bay via the sea front to the Rest Home and back. A rather unique bus, it had been presented and given to driver Peter Nedin of Swansea when he retired from the 'First Choice Bus Company'.

Peter is an old friend of Porthcawl, having driven many different vintage buses to and from the town. These have included a Red and White luxury coach bringing Dylan Thomas fans to the Seabank Hotel from Swansea, a N & C Coach for Chamber of Trade trips to Newquay, Cardigan, and Langland Bay, Swansea, as well as many other such events.

The bus passengers were especially privileged to have on board for Saturday's trips, that well known tour and coach courier, Steve Maitland-Thomas.

Steve, in his usual manner, kept them all entertained throughout the journey with a running commentary covering the rich history of Porthcawl as the bus passed sites of interest on its route through town.

The new harbour proved to be a great attraction in the evening to both sightseers and swimmers. With the high tide occurring at 7.15 pm, a boat was out in the bay pulling a water skier while other boats were returning to their berths in the harbour.

The calm water by the slip way and the high temperature, also attracted a score of swimmers to this natural swimming pool which is sheltered by the sea wall.

There is some concern here, as the new harbour has increased boat traffic. Some swimmers cross the entrance channel to the harbour when they swim across the bay, while there are others who are using the entrance marker mast as a ready-made diving board.

The GEM understands that the authorities are seeking advice on how to best police and integrate safely both swimming and boating activities.

All in all, it was a great day for Porthcawl, 'The Welsh Riviera', and for all those who attended the Sea Festival and visited the seaside resort.



ABOVE: The Bavarian Band.



ABOVE:
There was a
clown and a Punch
and Judy Show.



Swimmers climbing the harbour
entrance mast and diving off
are causing concern.



RIGHT:
Tour guide Steve
Maitland-Thomas.



BELOW:
The mayor and
consort on the open
top bus.

The Dawnsyr Pen-y-Fai entertained the crowds.



ABOVE:
Crazy golf on
the promenade.

RIGHT:
A floral display
in All Saints
Church.

LEFT:
The open top
bus passed a
packed Rest
Bay beach.



Out and About with The GEM

Bluebirds are winging in to play United!

ON Tuesday evening (August 5), Barry Town United welcome tough opposition from Cardiff City FC to Jenner Park, for the third annual pre-season friendly between the clubs (7pm kick-off).

Tickets are £5 (with a reduced rate for under-12s) and can be obtained from club secretary David Cole, on 07557 665847 or online at www.barryticketsource.co.uk

The Jenner Rooms will be open for refreshments, with a barbecue, face painting and junior football action at half-time adding to the family fun.

"Supporters are urged to secure their seats early to avoid disappointment; demand in recent years has been high and capacity restrictions will dictate the availability of tickets on the day," a club spokesman said.

Arts festival set to reach an exciting conclusion

NOW in its third year, Barry Arts Festival will reach an exciting conclusion this weekend, after more than 20 events across the town this week!

Tonight (Thursday), local singers from the Forte Cabaret Showcase at Barry Island Sports and Social perform a number of popular hits from the 60s and 70s. Archbishop of Wales, Barry Morgan, will speak at the Blue Deli on High Street, reflecting on the place of the church in modern society.

Tomorrow, local comedian Mike Bubbins is the star turn on Barry Island, but before that, Alex Harries from BBC Cymru's hit noir detective series, Y Gwyll/Hinterland, will be speaking at the Blue Deli about the success of the TV show.

An all-day folk music festival brings the arts festival to a close on Saturday, with headliners Phillip Henry

and Hannah Martin, who have recently been awarded the Radio 2 Folk Awards prize for best duo.

Also on Saturday's line-up are the Roving Crows; Sean Taylor, who recently released his sixth album of blues music; Ange Hardy, Fetea Magazine's female vocalist of the year; multi-instrumentalists Ben Walker and Chris Knowles, and the local James Clode Band.

The folk festival starts at 3.30pm with tickets available on the door.

Exhibitions continue from VOGA (Vale of Glamorgan Artists) at the Travellers' Café and Gallery at Barry Station. Steve Miller's abstract paintings at the Old Post Café on Holton Road, and works from Barry Hookers' sewing and crochet at Barry Library.

More information on all events available on the Barry Arts Festival website at <http://www.barryartsfestival.org.uk/>

Calling young photographers!



TV personality Chris Packham (right) with former RSPCA chief photographer Andrew Forsyth, judging the children's entries.

WITH the school summer holidays stretching out ahead of us the RSPCA's 'Young Photographer Awards' is the perfect boredom buster for children.

They could win a brilliant prize for taking a photo of their favourite animal – whether that's a shot of a snail in the garden, a portrait of the family pooch or a snap of a sheep in a field. Plus, if they are a finalist, they will be invited to the awards ceremony at the Tower of London in December that I am hosting.

I've been judging the competition for several years now and it's always really exciting to sift through the entries

and whittle them down to the winning shots.

There are some beautiful photographs which literally take your breath away, some shots which make you see animals in a completely different way and some pictures which just make you laugh.

Don't worry – you don't need an expensive camera to take part. If you are 18 and under just get snapping and visit

www.rspca.org.uk/ypa for more information about the categories and how to enter.

Entries for this year's competition are already rolling in thick and fast but there is still plenty of time to submit your photos before the closing date on August 25.

CHRIS PACKHAM,

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D837.

● £2,000: 438371.
● The rollover, which now stands at £1,000 was not won this week.

● £10: 548223, 826934, 249005, 448194, 158974, 796013, 336425, 232009, 265679, 267624, 440059, 981339, 119308, 780178, 975106, 525642, 678970, 180431, 171193, 670870.

● £5: 873690, 218110, 805609, 923333, 385125, 646044, 779243, 737551, 898090, 438166, 862072, 143268, 357166, 378092, 588445, 507569, 546513, 372566, 409778, 560529, 644221, 766241, 341159, 846576, 873677, 110273, 441178, 631173, 440619, 769042, 952691, 615557, 425715, 848075, 106139, 741152, 190725, 559184, 286392, 758598, 347761, 662100, 789687, 579783, 708994, 173097, 394507, 386408, 687184, 121844, 442818, 829599, 799040, 281291, 474311, 538395, 647521, 872191, 001196, 000292.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Toy and train sale at Barry Island station

Barry Island Station is hosting the next Toy and Train sale on Sunday, August 3, between 10.30am and 3pm.

It is the only event of this type at the venue in 2014, although plans are in hand for next year, owing to the popularity of the show, which is held within the buildings and on the platforms, under the large canopy.

In the meantime, the sister event, Cardiff Toy and Train Sale, will be taking place at Penarth Leisure Centre on a three-monthly basis (the next show there is on Saturday, October 11) with another show at Barry Leisure Centre on Sunday, September 28.

Barry Island Station has proved a big hit with the public in recent years and the unique atmosphere helps to create a special day alongside all of the seaside attractions on offer.

The station boasts an excellent in-house cafe and the main line station is on the same site, so

visitors can travel by rail from all over the area.

The Barry Tourist Railway will also be operating their own trains during the show.

Organiser Chris Dyer said: "Barry Island attracts a great range of traders from both sides of the Severn Bridge and a wonderful array of stock is always available from all the big names such as Dinky, Cori, Matchbox, EFE, Triang, Hornby, Lima, Wrenn, Bachmann, etc.

"In the current economic climate, prices have never been keener and it is an ideal time to build up collections at budget prices.

"Traders are also very keen to buy and to exchange, so do bring along your surplus items.

"We are very grateful to John Buxton and the railway for making their excellent facilities available to us, once per year."

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Our GEM Facebook winner for July 24, 2014 is:

Sarah Stephens

who correctly answered last week's question in The GEM.

Our lucky winning reader, chosen at random wins a £25 prize voucher to spend with any advertiser in last week's GEM.

The competition runs every week throughout 2014 with a potential prize fund of £1,150.

Congratulations, Sarah!

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16 August 2014, 10.30am - 4pm

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For more information and costume guidelines:

E bridgend@cats.org.uk

W www.bridgend.cats.org.uk

F [cpbridgend](https://www.facebook.com/cpbridgend)



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Hercules does exactly what it says on the tin!

WHEN Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson swapped the wrestling ring for the film studio 13 years ago, you wouldn't have expected much to come of it.

However, all those years on, Johnson is an established talent, a franchise headliner, and often the best thing in a film.

Having carved a niche as an action star, Johnson's latest role sees him take on the character of Hercules in the unsurprisingly titled *Hercules*. Having battled the historic 12 labours, Hercules is now a mercenary for hire, along with a small band of soldiers. When Lord Cotys (John Hurt) tasks him to defeat a warlord whose ambitions are threatening his kingdom, Hercules must step back onto the battlefield to face his most dangerous challenge yet...

There is a mathematical equation (albeit unconfirmed by the intelligentsia) that suggests the presence of Dwayne Johnson in a film can improve the quality of said film by around 20 per cent. This equation comes into play again here as Hercules is a slice of undemanding entertainment that benefits from the star in the title role, dragging

what could have been a run-of-the-mill 21st century sword 'n' sandals into something reasonably entertaining.

If you're looking for depth then you'll be disappointed (the closest it gets is the mysterious fate of Hercules' family which most seasoned filmgoers will clue into within five minutes), but there's enough decent spectacle – and that man Johnson – to carry the film through its running time.

Johnson has proved that he can lift moribund efforts like *GI Joe: Retaliation* and *Pain and Gain*, and his performance here, while not his best by a long stretch, does allow the film a greater degree of forgiveness than it would otherwise receive.

With films like *Immortals* and *Clash of the Titans* riffing on similar subject matter (and being wholly terrible), Johnson's turn proves the difference: his charisma and likeability making *Hercules* an enjoyable character to spend time with.

Ridiculously muscly, his is a performance more of physical power than acting subtlety but Johnson hits the mark – even if the script makes his character slightly dour.

There is joy to be



by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen
Talk on Twitter –
@GEMScreenTalk

found from the supporting cast, again delivering pleasing if slight turns, the likes of Rufus Sewell, Ian McShane (the best thing here) and John Hurt chewing scenery like they haven't been fed in months. It's the sort of performances films like this thrive on, and the quality of the cast around Johnson, and the gravitas they offer, again make it a slightly more appealing offering.

Hercules has been something of a pet project for director Brett Ratner, not that you would know from his direction. It takes its cue primarily from John Milius' *Conan*, but also the many films within this genre, and while it looks grimly stylish, yet again Ratner fails to impress anything of his own personality upon the film.

He's a director who

can approximate the styles of others, but has never really established a style of his own, and while this is a criticism, his work here, much like the film itself, is decent.

The story moves in a predictable arc, despite taking a clever attitude towards the 12 labours Hercules had to endure (or did he?) which is pleasing to see; but this aside, there isn't much that comes unexpectedly, and come a climax that plods rather than soars, you're about ready to wrap things up rather than want more.

However, *Hercules* is a surprisingly decent film that makes no bones about trying to do anything more than entertain and deliver some degree of spectacle. That it does this job leaves a slightly more pleasant taste in the mouth than expected, even if it won't linger in the brain afterwards.

VERDICT: A surprisingly entertaining, testosterone-fuelled blockbuster, *Hercules* benefits from the presence of Dwayne Johnson and in knowing that it's there to entertain and nothing more. Solid and undemanding, it does what it sets out to do and nothing more.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Gladiator* (2000), *300* (2006).

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Left to right: Peter Buckle: Royal British Legion (Porthcawl) the parade marshal, and Ray Street, RBL Porthcawl's standard bearer with the owner of Home & Colonial, Abbé Vaughan.

PHOTO BY JAMES DAVIES

Porthcawl deli marks Great War

A PORTHCAWL delicatessen has unveiled a commemorative display marking the anniversary of the start of World War One to raise money for today's armed forces.

Home & Colonial Fine Foods Deli in the centre of the town has been transformed with a military cargo net adorned with poppies and personal military memories suspended from the ceiling.

Money raised from the display will go to The Royal British Legion to help its work with today's service

personnel.

Customers who donate £1 to the charity receive an old-fashioned style brown price ticket on which they can write the name of a family member who has been in the armed forces or served in a conflict. The ticket is then attached to the cargo net.

The fundraising display is the idea of husband and wife team Stuart and Abbé Vaughan who run the deli, and is part of the town's activities marking the centenary of the Great War

www.porthcawlandthegreatwar.com

PORTHCAWL turns back time 100 years... no, it's not another episode of Dr Who! Porthcawl and the Great War is the brainchild of Porthcawl Museum and Historical Society's secretary and historian, Ceri Joseph.

Aided by her husband Paul, the museum's chairman, she inspired members of the museum and other local organisations to create a town event this Saturday to commemorate the centenary of the Great War. It will take place in John Street, Porthcawl.

Paul Joseph commented that he was very proud of the effort his wife has put into bringing years of research into the town's contribution to the Great War, now presented in the museum's latest exhibition, which was formally opened by Mrs Madeleine Moon MP in May.

He said that the event would not have been possible if it had not been supported by Porthcawl Town Council and generous donations from members of the museum.

On Saturday, August 2, the day's events commence with a minute's silence at 10am

before the formal opening by the High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, Mrs Elizabeth Singer DL, and the Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Sean Aspey.

The Lord Lieutenant of Mid Glamorgan, Mrs Kathrin Thomas CVO, will visit the Porthcawl and the Great War exhibition at the museum and additional displays at the Y Centre at 11.15am.

The dignitaries will be received by John Berry from the Y Centre and Paul Joseph from the museum and escorted by an honour guard from Porthcawl Air and Sea Cadets.

Local history groups and societies will present their research and Great War memorabilia in the main hall of the Y Centre. Assistance with online family history research will be available thanks to the Glamorgan Family History Society.

The National Library of Wales will be present and invites everyone attending to bring along any photographs and documents to be scanned and uploaded to its website

www.thepeoplescollectionwales.co.uk which will become a unique resource for Welsh history.

The day will continue with illustrated talks about the Great War at the Y Centre, including the presentation of research by history students at Porthcawl Comprehensive School, who have been investigating the influx of Belgian refugees during the early part of the Great War. Their hard work has recently been rewarded with an award of £500 under the Welsh Schools Heritage Awards.

John Street will see a recruiting sergeant seeking likely looking candidates to join the colours. There may be a little mayhem when the Suffragettes make their way noisily down the street. Porthcawl Community Orchestra will be playing at the bandstand throughout the day.

Other organisations who will be present include Porthcawl Lions and the Royal British Legion. Everyone is invited to join in the occasion by dressing in period costume. Prizes will be awarded for the Best Dressed Window display and best individual costume. The weekend continues on Sunday (August 3) when Porthcawl Lions hold a vintage fair at Porthcawl Rugby Club; the day starts at 10am and finishes at 4.30pm.

DS

Triple Green Flag success for borough

KEEP Wales Tidy has awarded Bridgend county borough a 'hat-trick' of Green Flags to mark high quality parks or green spaces.

The Wilderness Lake in Porthcawl, Maesteg Welfare Park, and Coychurch Crematorium have all earned the right to fly the coveted environmental flag from the charity.

Maesteg Welfare Park is celebrating its second consecutive award and Wilderness Lake has its fourth consecutive award, while Coychurch Crematorium can fly the flag for the fifth time in a row.

Coun Phil White, BCBC cabinet member for communities, said: "It's excellent news that the county borough has earned the right to raise three Green Flags once again this year. Council employees, volunteer groups and individuals put a lot of hard work into maintaining our parks and green spaces, and receiving these awards is a fitting tribute to their on-going efforts."

Across Wales, a total of 65 parks and 37 community-managed green spaces have been recognised for their excellent facilities, as well as their commitment to delivering great quality green spaces.

Views sought on expanding local Welsh primary school

WITH growing demand for Welsh medium education in Bridgend county borough, plans to relocate Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw from Pontycymer to Bettws are set to expand.

Last November a public consultation was held after cabinet members from BCBC agreed to Cwm Garw's relocation to the site of the current Bettws Primary School in time for September 2017.

A spokesperson explained that it was initially envisaged the new school should cater for 210 pupils plus 45 nursery places, but following completion of the authority's Welsh medium survey, it is clear that a larger school will be required, with capacity for 50 per cent more pupils.

Cabinet members have agreed that another six-week consultation exercise will be held with staff, parents, pupils and the governing body on proposals for the larger school, after the new term starts in September.

A further report will be made to cabinet members after the consultation has been completed.

It has also been agreed that there will be a consultation on changing the school's catchment area to include some of the northern parts of Bridgend and the valleys gateway communities, which will help to reduce the pressure on places at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr in Brackla, which is nearing full capacity.

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "We will be building first class facilities for the pupils at Bettws and the move will relieve pressure on Welsh medium places at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr in Bridgend."

"While the current Cwm Garw school provides a very good education for local children, the old building there is in a poor condition, as it wasn't designed to accommodate learning in the 21st century, whereas the new school will give Cwm Garw pupils access to state-of-the-art facilities, enhanced outdoor spaces and playing fields."

The relocated Cwm Garw school will also be joined on the Bettws Primary site by a merged Bettws and Tynyrhoel Primary School.

Funding for the new schools will be provided by BCBC in partnership with the Welsh Government through the 21st Century Schools Programme.



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Man suffered fractured jaw

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

A number of nerves were affected and a full recovery could take two years.

When arrested, James said Mr Holwell suffered the injuries because he fell over.

While on bail, his mother gave him a meal before she went to church.

When she returned, she found her home had been broken into and £40 stolen.

James was said to have convictions for 14 offences, including theft and burglary.

His counsel, Hugh Wallace, said that it was his first conviction for an offence of violence. The theft from his mother, he said, "was nothing less than biting the hand which fed him".

He was ordered to pay £100 victim surcharge.



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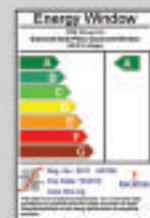
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WHAT happened in July 1914? Was anyone responsible for causing the First World War?

Diplomacy in the late 19th and early 20th centuries created a divided Europe. France felt Germany would defeat it if there was war, and made a defensive alliance with Russia.

Britain remained independent but did hold discussions with France about providing support if war broke out.

Unfortunately, the Germans saw these agreements as attempts to surround them, forcing them to fight on two fronts.

Seeking protection, Germany became allied with Austria-Hungary – with Italy as a third, but unreliable partner. The situation was complicated by the decline of the Ottoman Empire which had allowed countries like Serbia and Bulgaria to become independent.

Serbia had expansionist ambitions to incorporate all Slavs in the Balkans which created tensions with the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which had a large Slavic minority population.

Assassination

THE trigger for the crisis was a visit by Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and his wife Sophie, to Sarajevo in Bosnia. On Sunday, June 28, 1914, as their motorcade drove along the Appel Quay to a reception in the town hall, a bomb was thrown at their car.

It missed, exploding under the following vehicle injuring some of the passengers. The drive continued, but after the reception, the royal couple decided to visit the wounded in hospital.

General Potiorek, who was in charge of the visit, failed to tell the driver of the changed route. The car took a wrong turning, Potiorek ordered the driver to stop and reverse back round the corner.

By pure chance, this was exactly where Gavrilo Princip, the leader of the conspiracy, was waiting, doubtless depressed at the failure of his plans. Seizing this amazing opportunity, he fired his automatic at a range of a few feet, hitting both Franz Ferdinand and Sophie.

As he bled to death, Franz Ferdinand's last words were: "Sophie, Sophie, don't die! Live for my children." But Sophie was already dead.

All the assassins were Bosnians, but they had got weapons and training from the Black Hand, a semi-secret terrorist organisation, led by Dragutin Dimitrijević the head of Serbian military intelligence.

Although the Serbian government was probably not involved, the Austro-Hungarian government saw the murder as the ideal excuse for war against Serbia.

In particular, Conrad von Hotzendorf, the head of the army, argued for war, both for political reasons and because a victor's laurels might persuade his mistress to leave her husband and marry him.

But Tsarist Russia saw itself as the protector of Serbia. In 1905, Russia had been heavily defeated by Japan but had been rebuilding its army and, while the Austrians thought they could defeat Serbia alone, they knew they could not take on Russia as well, so sought German support.

Kaiser Wilhelm II, the ruler of Germany, had been friendly with Franz Ferdinand, though the decision to give unconditional support for any action Austria decided to take against Serbia was not a personal one but made with the agreement of his ministers.

Germany's decision to support Austria (the blank cheque) reflected their fear of being isolated and surrounded by France and Russia, and their view that, as Russia was getting steadily stronger, if war was going to come, it was better to fight in 1914 than later.

With this support, on July 23, Austria-Hungary served an ultimatum on Serbia. It had a 48-hour time limit and made demands which Serbia would not be able to accept.

When the Russian foreign minister heard the terms he said: "It's a European war."

From intelligence and leaks, the French and Russians were aware that the Austrians were planning to move against Serbia.

President Poincaré happened to be on a state visit to Russia and made it clear to Tsar Nicholas's advisors that they could rely on French support against Austria. Why? France had no major interest in Serbia, but it had a very real interest in ensuring Russian support if there was a war with Germany.

by GAVIN DAVIES

Mobilisation

FOR Britain, the assassination and later developments all seemed very far away and, anyway, we had our own crisis over the Irish Home Rule Bill.

Objections from Protestant Ulster had created the possibility of civil war in Ireland, which could even have resulted in parts of the British Army refusing to obey the government.

Events now moved quickly. On July 25, Serbia rejected the Austrian ultimatum and mobilised its army. The French started to prepare for mobilisation, Austria rejected a Russian appeal to extend the deadline and everyone rejected a British proposal for mediation.

On July 28, Austria declared war on Serbia.

On July 29, the Austrians actually bombarded Belgrade. In Russia, the Tsar ordered parts of the army to mobilise against Austria. He was told this was impossible as no plans existed for partial mobilisation.

The following day, the Tsar agreed to full mobilisation commencing on July 31. This threatened Germany, who had a common frontier with Poland, then part of Russia. The Germans started to prepare to mobilise.

This was serious. For Russia, Austria and Serbia mobilisation did not necessarily mean war, but Germany's plans for war were for an automatic progression from mobilisation to the concentration of its armies and to surprise attacks on Luxembourg and the Belgian fortress of Liège. *The clock was ticking...*

On July 31, Austria ordered mobilisation. Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Secretary, asked both France and Germany if they would respect Belgian neutrality in the event of war. The French agreed. The Germans did not reply.

The next day, Germany and France started full mobilisation and Germany declared war on Russia. On August 2, Germany served an ultimatum on Belgium demanding free passage for German troops and made vague promises of compensation at French expense when the war was won.

On August 3, Germany declared war on France and, when the Belgians rejected German demands, attacked Liège.

On August 4, Britain demanded that the Germans withdraw from Belgium and, when they did not, declared war on Germany at 11pm British (midnight German) time.

The World War had started.

Then on August 6, Austria declared war on Russia and, finally, at the end of August, Japan declared war on Germany and Austria-Hungary. *Now the whole world was involved.*

WHO WAS TO BLAME?

WHO caused the war? It is not clear that Germany actually caused the war although their 'blank cheque' to Austria could be said to have allowed it to happen.

Certainly France's fear of facing Germany without Russian support, and Germany's fear of being isolated if Austria did not support them against France and Russia could also be said to have been triggers.

Perhaps the real problem was that none of the politicians or soldiers realised the nature of the war which was to come, and were prepared to fight rather than give up their national interests.

Should they be blamed for their lack of foresight? I leave it to you to decide.

Porthcawl and the Great War

COME to Porthcawl on August 2-3 to help us to mark the centenary of the Great War 1914 - 1918.

Saturday highlights include - Porthcawl and the Great War exhibition at Porthcawl museum; exhibitions and period displays by local societies at the Y Centre; illustrated half-hour talks throughout the day; amateur radio broadcasting to the world and Morse code demonstrations; research your family history with Glamorgan Family History Society; meet a 1914 recruiting sergeant and join up for the day; street events in period costume

throughout the day.

Join us by dressing in period costume. Prizes for the best costumes. The exhibition at the museum and the Y Centre, John Street will open at 10am and close at 4.30pm.

The day will end with a commemorative service at the War Memorial, All Saint's Church, Porthcawl. Also on Sunday, August 3 the Lions' Vintage Fair at Porthcawl Rugby Club is being held to coincide with the commemorations, 10am-4pm.

Research on Dinas Powys men who fell

TO mark the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War on August 4, 1914, research has been undertaken to discover more about the 36 local men named on the memorial in Dinas Powys, who sacrificed their lives in the war.

A 50-page colour booklet has been produced, showing the results of the research – where the men lived, their regiments, where they fought, and where they died and are buried, or remembered.

The oldest was aged 52 and the youngest just 14 years old.

Two more men have been identified whose names were omitted from the memorial, and the local branch of the Royal British Legion has agreed with the Community Council that their names be added.

The booklet is currently on sale at post offices and other shops in Dinas Powys, priced £4.99.

In addition, the British Legion is organising a ceremony at the memorial on the Twyn at 10.45am on Monday, August 4 to mark the occasion, when the names and details of the 38 men who gave their lives will be read out.

On the afternoon of August 4, at 1.30pm, a presentation will be made in Lee Hall, Dinas Powys, using pictures and music to tell the stories of the men from Dinas Powys and Michaelston who went to war in 1914-18 and who did not come home.

DEREK BRUSHETT



ABOVE: The memorial in the centre of Dinas Powys.



ABOVE: The Devonshire Cemetery at Mametz, where two Dinas Powys men, Bill French and Richard Kitch, are buried.

LAST LETTER HOME...

A GEM reader would like to share the final letter of Corporal Frank Burke, 10th Battalion, South Wales Borderers, sent to his elder brother Charles on October 16, 1918.

The letter belongs to Dave Walsh of Cardiff, who explains: "Frank was my grandmother's brother and, as a child, I saw the original, but children don't always understand."

"I do hope this poignant memory may be shared with others."

Frank wrote: "We've just had a turn in the front line and I'm caked with mud from head to foot but I feel as fit as a fiddle. It seems to me that they're anxious to decorate somebody in this Batt: as I've just been recommended again, that making it twice in eight days. The first do was worth something as

I did a bit of good work when we tackled Fritz on the eighth... the second do was nothing more than a bit of patrol work, which is my hobby.

"You'd laugh (if) you could see me sometimes walking by night in no-man's-land with a big Ger pistol in my fist, looking for anything I can find."

"I find that the neutral ground between the lines is a fine place to work and I've formed the habit of placing a junior in charge and finding all I can on my own..."

"Well, dear brother of mine, whether I survive or not, I'm glad to think that you'll never have reason to be ashamed of me and I don't want you to be sorry if it should happen if I go West before the war ends. I've had a good time, proved myself to my own satisfaction and settled

with the Boche for a good few things. In that do on the morning of the 8th I squared matters for a good many things and, although I took 23 Gers off my own bat, I was called a bloody murderer by one of my own men."

"Of course he only called it half in fun but it will give you some idea how I carried on..."

"Whatever Fritz does now, he can never get his own back from me and if I pass out, I go happily, for my work is done and my oath is kept. Don't get grieved if I get knocked out. I've lived my 'crowded hour' and you can remember me, if not with pride, at least without shame or regret."

Frank was killed the following day. This item was contributed by Jo Barratt of Cowbridge, great-niece of Cpl Frank Burke.

Commemorating the centenary of the First World War WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

PENARTH PUPILS' RESEARCH IS PART OF NEW WELSH APP...

FOUR LOCAL MEN WHO LOST THEIR LIVES DURING THE GREAT WAR

by Jack DeClaire,
Callum Smith,
Abigail Hallum
and Josie

Vincent-Newson.

AS part of the preparation for the 'Wales at War' App being developed with the Welsh Government, Dr Jonathan Hicks, headteacher of St Cyres School in Penarth, set four of his pupils the challenge of discovering the stories behind four local casualties in the Great War, one from each branch of the Services.

Here are the results of their research...

Ernest Denman was the third mate aboard the SS *Narragansett*, a 9,196 gross ton tanker with her engines amidships.

She was built by Scott's Shipbuilding and Engineering Co of Glasgow/Greenock, in 1903 for the Anglo-American Oil Co, and was the largest and fastest (11 knots) tanker afloat at the time.

On May 7, 1915, she was attacked by a submarine south of Ireland, but the torpedo missed. However, she sank with the loss of all hands (the captain plus 45 crew) on March 16, 1917 when she was hit by a German torpedo.

The vessel was sunk by German u-boat U-44, commanded by Paul Wagenfuhr, about 400 miles west of the Scilly Islands.

The *Narragansett's* final voyage was from New York to London, carrying a cargo of lubricating oil. On a previous occasion, Wagenfuhr's u-boat had sunk a British vessel, ordered the surviving crew onto the deck of his submarine and instructed his crew to destroy the lifeboats. After two miles' sailing he then submerged, drowning most of the helpless sailors.

Ernest was the son of Emily Denman of 32 Grove Place and had been born in Penarth. He was 23 and is commemorated on the Tower Hill Memorial in London.

On August 2, 1917, the U-44 was rammed by HMS *Oracle* off southern Norway with the loss of all hands.

Ordinary Signalman Charles Kirby was

killed in May 1916, aged 18, at the Battle of Jutland – the major engagement between the British Grand Fleet and the German High Seas Fleet off the coast of Denmark.

The son of Miriam Kirby, of 11, Amherst Crescent, Barry, and the late Edward Hely Kirby, he was killed aboard HMS *Defence*, a 14,300 ton cruiser which was hit by shells fired by the German flagship *Friedrich der Grosse* as she sped in to attack the damaged German light cruiser *Wiesbaden*.

Her forward magazines detonated and she disappeared in a column of smoke taking 903 men with her, including Rear Admiral Sir Robert Arbuthnot, leaving behind nothing but bits of floating wreckage. Charles Kirby was just 18 years old. He is remembered on the Barry Island School Memorial.

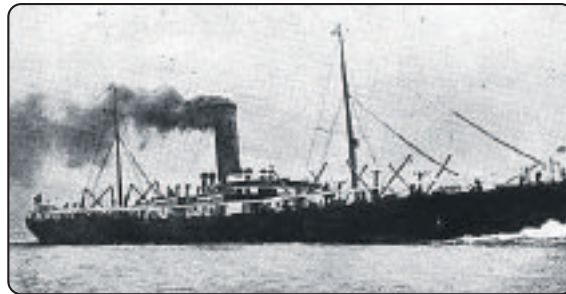
Second Lieutenant **Albert Payne**, Royal Flying Corps, the son of Mr and Mrs G Payne, 34, Travis Street, Barry Dock, met with a fatal accident on Sunday, January 13 when making a trial flight from Hendon (where he was stationed) to Ipswich. The machine dived downwards and caught fire.

The deceased young officer enlisted in Canada, where he had been for some years. He went to France two years before, but was wounded and discharged, and stationed at the head offices of the Canadian Government in London, after which he joined the RFC.

Lt Payne was educated at Holton Road Council School, Barry Dock. He had a brother, Sgt WJ Payne in the Army Service Corps, and two brothers-in-law serving, each of whom had been mentioned in dispatches and granted the Meritorious Service Medal.

The full story of the accident was told at the inquest at Hendon on the body of the late Lt Payne and on Francis Harry Varney Vise, (22), the pilot, who was making the flight with Lt Payne.

Captain Sevinbright said that Vise was an experienced pilot, although he was flying a machine that he had never flown before. He had, however, flown one which was very similar, and the slight differences were pointed out to him before the flight.



ABOVE: Ernest Denman served aboard the SS *Narragansett*.

Witnesses learnt that the two men reached an altitude of 1,500 ft and then descended to about around 1,000 ft. He believed that the machine stalled on the turn. The climatic conditions were not against flying.

Captain Clear of the Manchester Regiment, attached to the School of Instruction, said that he saw most of the flight.

The machine was taken off the ground steeply and when 100 ft up it made a turn and flew at a height of 800ft. It then made a left hand turn, got into a spin and fell. The petrol tank burst and caught alight through the machine striking the ground and not during the course of descent. He could not account for the accident. It was stated that the engine was examined before the machine left the ground and was perfectly satisfactory.

On January 25, Albert Payne's funeral took place at Barry Cemetery, the Rev J Mydyr Evans, Ty-newydd Road, Congregational Church, officiating.

The funeral was attended by a large number of officers and men of the Royal Flying Corps stationed at Hendon and the body was borne to the grave on a gun carriage covered with floral wreaths, and the solemn strains of the 'Dead March' in 'Saul', played by the Regimental Band.

The body had been conveyed from Hendon to the home of the deceased's parents at Travis Street, Barry Dock. He was interred with full military honours and the lengthy cortege as it passed through the streets on its way to the local cemetery was the object of profound sympathy and respect, and many were affected at the knowledge of so sad an end to such a gallant soldier.

Eight officers and about 40 men from the Lancashire Fusiliers and

about 50 officers and men from the RFC attended, and the local band played the dead march during the progress of the cortege to the cemetery.

The body was conveyed on a carriage and covered by the Union Jack and a wealth of handsome floral tributes from comrades and friends. Among the numerous wreaths was one from the officers of the School of Instruction, Hendon.

Samuel George Pearce is one of two Penarthians to have won the Victoria Cross. He was born on July 16, 1897 at Penarth. In 1911 his family moved to Victoria in Australia. He joined the Australian Army in July 1915, aged 18, and served at Gallipoli, the Battle of the Somme and at Passchendaele.

Pearce had a chequered military career, being court-martialled and reduced to the ranks. He went absent without leave on several occasions, was wounded on the Somme and yet, as part of the 1st Machine Gun Battalion of the Australian Imperial Force he won the Military Medal during the fighting around Passchendaele (the Third Battle of Ypres).

He was discharged from the army in July 1919 but joined the 45th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers who were then ordered to Russia. The North Russian Relief Force had been formed to protect allied supplies which were being sent to the White Russian forces then engaged in a struggle against the Russian Revolutionaries of the Red Army.

On August 29, 1919, north of the village of Emtsa, a village on the Archangel to Vologda railway line, he cut his way through enemy barbed wire under very heavy rifle and machine



ABOVE:
A monument to Samuel George Pearce VC.
BELOW:
Samuel George Pearce.



gun fire. He thus cleared a way for the troops to enter an enemy battery position.

Seeing that a blockhouse was holding up the advance, Pearce charged the blockhouse single-handed and killed the occupants with grenades. He was killed a few minutes later and is now buried in the Obozerskaya Burial Ground. He is also commemorated on a special memorial in Archangel Allied Cemetery.

HMS *Defence*.



ABOVE:
Ernest Denman.



ABOVE:
Albert Payne.



ABOVE: Albert Payne (left).

Dinas remembers

ON Monday, August 4 at 11am, there will be a short service at the War Memorial on the Twyn, Dinas Powys, organised by Dinas Powys Branch of the British Legion, during which the names of those from Dinas Powys and Michaelston-le-pit who died between 1914 and 1918 will be read out.

Music will be provided by the Ecumenical Seven. The service will be followed by refreshments in Lee Hall.

On the same afternoon at 2 pm on August 4, Mr Derek Brushett will be at the DPVC Community Club in Lee Hall, Britway Road, to tell the stories of the 36 men from our community who gave their lives for their country.

Please come and join us for this fascinating talk. The community club is open to all and refreshments will be served from 1.30pm.

On Saturday, August 9, Murchfield Community Cinema, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys, will be presenting the classic film *Oh What a Lovely War*. Doors open at 7pm and tickets are available from the Local Post Offices (£4 in advance) or on the door for £5.

Oh! What A Lovely War summarises and comments on the events of World War One using popular songs of the time.

The film is based upon a 1961 Radio play, *The Long Long Trail*, originated by Charles Chilton.

There is humour, sadness and a very moving end.

Do come and take the opportunity to see this iconic film as it should be seen – on a big screen in a cinema setting.

Refreshments are always available at all Murchfield Community Cinema presentations.

JOHN FANSHAW

GEM commemoration Part Two: next week

THE GEM would like to thank the people who contributed pieces to our commemoration of the First World War. Next week we will carry more contributions from the Vale and Bridgend county areas.

Commemorating the centenary of the First World War WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

A First World War Vale connection to Australia

VIGNACOURT British Cemetery at Amiens, the Somme, northern France, has a poignant Barry-Australia link and a visit to the World War One cemetery in 2012 provided Barry Male Voice choristers with a stark reminder of the horror, waste and sadness of the war.

Chorister John Shewring, now living in Dinas Powys and formerly of 9 George Street, Barry Dock, was to be the first family member to visit the grave of his great uncle, Lance Corporal James Leay, who was killed in action aged 23 years in one of the last battles of World War One.

James, a sailor and stepson of Arthur and Ada Annie Cutler of 11 George Street, Barry Dock, served in France with the 17th Battalion of the Australian Infantry after enlisting at the agricultural ground, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia in 1915.

His address recorded upon enlistment was '11 George Street, Barry Dock, Glamorganshire, England'. His pay was five shillings a day. The 17th battalion was involved in desperate fighting in the defence of Amiens, which eventually stopped a last, determined attempt by the Germans to break through Allied lines.

James was wounded by a shell on August 9 and died of his wounds on August 17, 1918, at the 20th casualty clearing station, less than



three months before the war ended.

The vital role of the Australian forces is reflected in the casualty list; of the 524 casualties buried in Vignacourt British cemetery, a total of 424 headstones are Australian.

James Leay's name is commemorated on the roll of honour at the Australian war memorial, situated in the capital city of Australia, Canberra and also on the roll of honour in the Memorial Hall Barry.

Vignacourt British cemetery is unique in that it contains a statue of a French soldier, on the base of which are engraved the words: 'Frères d'armes de l'Armée Britannique, tombés au Champ d'Honneur, dormez en paix, Nous veillons sur vous' - Brothers in arms of the British Army, fallen on the field of honour, sleep in peace, We are watching over you.'



The Vignacourt British Cemetery.

Cowbridge Museum commemoration

COWBRIDGE Museum will commemorate the First World War with a display of World War One items and memories on September 5-6. Entry is free.

The display will contain a small section about the Cowbridge based Haywood family who had 11 adult children on active service, and other items will relate specifically to Cowbridge and more generally to the UK.

Taking its title 'Keep the Home Fires Burning', from the popular song by Cardiff-born Ivor Novello, it will look at home life "while the lads are far from home."

PR



Bridgend tribute to Great War heroes



ABOVE: Pupils from Tondy Primary School take a close look at the new mosaics in Aberkenfig square.



New mosaics to mark the centenary of the First World War have been installed in Aberkenfig, thanks to a Newcastle Higher Community Council project involving three local primary schools.

A NEW tribute to the sacrifices made by Bridgend County Borough's war heroes has been unveiled in Aberkenfig.

Three colourful mosaics designed by local schoolchildren, have been installed in the village square, to mark the centenary of the First World War.

In a project sponsored by Newcastle Higher Community Council, the children from Tondy Primary School, St Roberts Catholic Primary School and Penyfael CIW Primary School, came up with the designs after they learned about the First World War in their classrooms.

Artist Justine Stroud, of Primary Colours, then created the mosaics and they now stand proudly in the square.

Coun Derek Baker from Newcastle Higher Community Council said: "We are very pleased that this project came to fruition, as it is something that we have been passionate about and worked on over many years.

"The children came up with excellent ideas for the mosaics and we

hope that they will be enjoyed by the local community. The mosaics will stand here for up to four years, after which they will be placed in their respective schools."

Coun Baker added: "This has been the Community Council's biggest project by far and we are already looking forward to 2018, when we will be producing further mosaics to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War."

Bridgend County Borough's Mayor Gary Thomas and Janice Gregory, AM for Ogmere, were both present for the official unveiling of the mosaics, and Coun Huw David,

Bridgend County Borough Council's cabinet member for children and young people, said: "In this year more than any other it is vital for us to teach our young people about the past and commemorate the contribution of our Armed Forces during the First World War.

"Children from three local primary schools have spent a lot of time researching the war and their wonderful designs provide a fitting tribute.

"I'm sure that the children will all be extremely proud of their involvement when they look back on what they have produced in the years to come."

St Brides Major Remembers

A WORLD War One commemoration will be held on Monday, August 4, at the War Memorial in St Brides Major, to commemorate the fallen of St Brides Major, Southerndown, and Ogmere-by-Sea.

It will start at 7pm, with a service being led by the Venerable Philip Morris and accompanied by the Ogmere Silver Band.

Following the service, the band will be playing contemporary tunes, and teas and coffees will be served in the church hall at St Brides. All are welcome.



Lance Corporal James Leay.

Commemorating the centenary of the First World War WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Memorial gates honour the heroes of both world wars



PICTURED (left to right): Warrant Officer Kelvin Oatridge, Mr Robert Clark (War Veteran), Coun Mr Guy Ingram, Coun Mr Mick Mason (Town Mayor), Mr Jim Morgan (War Veteran and representative from the Royal British Legion) and Flight Lieutenant Robert Wagg.

THERE is very little recorded evidence on the Sea View Memorial Gates at Llantwit Major; however, looking back at old parish council minutes and talking to local residents, it is understood the gates were originally made after the Second World War, to remember those who lost their lives in both World Wars.

At the end of World War Two, many residents of Llantwit Major gave a shilling toward the refurbishment of the War Memorial Cross.

On completion of the refurbishment, there was money left over, so it was decided to have the memorial gates made. The gates were made by RAF St Athan.

On their completion, the council could not decide where to put the gates, so they remained in one of the council

buildings for many years! In October 1977, Sea View Park was dedicated to Llantwit Major by George Wimpey and Co Ltd.

The land was transferred to Llantwit Major Town Council, under the condition that it be kept as a public open space.

It was then decided the gates should be installed at the entrance to the Sea View Park from Colhugh Street.

This year, to commemorate the

centenary of World War One, the town council had the gates repaired, galvanised and repainted to mark this special event.

Representatives from RAF St Athan, Royal

British Legion, the Town Mayor and a local councillor attended to mark the completion of this project and to remember those who lost their lives in both World Wars.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH TO HONOUR ITS HEROES

THIRTY-THREE members of the Barry Church of St Paul's lost their lives on active service in the First World War and a number of others who served in the armed forces, survived the conflict.

The names of all those who fell are recorded in St Paul's War Memorial porch and St Paul's Rector Robert Parrish is inviting relatives of those who lost their lives to write to him with any family memories of these heroes from one hundred years ago.

Father Robert hopes family representatives will be able to attend a special memorial service at St Paul's on Remembrance Sunday, November 9 (at 10am).

One member of St Paul's who returned home from service in World War One was Albert Sylvester, a member of the family who ran a well-known decorating business in Barry.

Today, nephews Terry, David and Donald still run the Silver Star Decorating and DIY Centre on Barry Docks. They have played prominent roles in Sully Centurions Cricket Club and the preservation and operation of the pleasure steamers *Waverley* and *Balmoral*.

Albert Sylvester was a choir boy and scout master at St Paul's. He was gassed in the trenches and awarded the Military Medal 'For Bravery in the Field'. Presented with the MM at his former school in High Street in June 1918, Mr Sylvester, in responding to Mr G Wareham, chairman of Barry Urban District Council, said he hoped that the children of High Street School would never have to go and do the same.

Albert died in Cheltenham in his early 60s having suffered for much of his life from the effects of poison gas.

These are the names recorded on the Roll of Honour of the members of St Paul's Church, Barry, who lost their lives in World War One:

Harry Butler, Frederick Burton, Sidney George Beddingfield, Harry Churchill, Maurice Cater, Harold Chamen, John Davies, Percy Edwards, David Charles Grant, James Hutton, Roger Heath, Oswald Hulín, Claude Harding, Paget George Irvine, Christopher Kilby, Harry Jarret Littlehales, William May, Herbert May, Harold Marsh, John Percival Marshall, Arthur Nash, Ernest Phillips, Frederick Bush Parker, Ivor Prince, Cyril Gilmore Stevens, William Smith, Francis Spencer, John Streeter, Fred Streeter, Thomas Davies Williams, Harry Weaver, Victor Wraithman, Eric Whitehouse.

• **Surviving relatives are invited to write to Father Robert Parrish, Rector of St Paul's and Merthyr Dyfan Churches at 10, Buttrills Road, Barry, and to the Editor of The GEM, at the address given on page 2 of this week's issue.**

ST AUGUSTINE'S, PENARTH LEADS COMMEMORATION



FLASHBACK; Armed forces attend the first Dedication.



The newly restored Roll of Honour.

ON August 4, 1914, one of the most horrific wars of all time began.

In one way or another, World War One affected every community across Britain. In Penarth, over 300 men lost their lives, many were injured and countless families were devastated by the death or injury of a close relative.

Organisations across the town are organising different events to recall the sacrifices made by so many.

Some are very personal, others are bringing to mind specific aspects of the war, but the Service of Commemoration on Sunday, August 3 at St Augustine's Church is an event at which the whole community can come together for a joint act of remembrance.

The service starts at 10.30am and will be attended by the Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Dr Peter Beck, Stephen Doughty MP, the mayors of Penarth and the Vale, and representatives of the Armed Forces, the Police and many local voluntary organisations.

Most importantly, also present will be relatives and friends of those named on the recently-restored Roll of Honour, which is situated in St Augustine's and lists 207 men from Penarth who died in World War One.

The service will be led by Canon Roger Williams and the address given by the Archbishop of Wales, the Most Revd Barry Morgan. Richard James, chairman of the local branch of the British Legion, has been involved in

the preparation for the service; a Legion member will carry the standard and another will play the Last Post.

During the service, the Roll of Honour will be re-dedicated. The Roll has been restored and enough money raised to ensure that the history of the Roll and those named on it will be recorded for perpetuity. The Friends of St Augustine's, who organised the restoration, received grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund and The War Memorial Trust.

Generous donations and fund raising events also added to the fund.

Jennifer Stewart, head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in Wales said: "In this, First World War Centenary year, HLF is supporting many community led projects that are helping us all to learn more about the heritage of the First World War and the impact that it had on our communities."

"I am delighted that we have been able to support this project in Penarth through our new small grants programme and ensure the Roll of Honour is restored."

The service of commemoration has been organised jointly by the parish, the Royal British Legion, and the Friends of St Augustine's.

All those involved very much hope that anyone wanting to pay their respects to those who died, and those who were injured, will come and join them on August 3, at 10.30am in St Augustine's.

Tricia Griffiths

Alexandra Park achieves 'Centenary Field' status



ABOVE: Roy Noble (centre) alongside Mayor Howard Hamilton.

BROADCASTER Roy Noble and the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Howard Hamilton recently unveiled Alexandra Park as an official 'Centenary Field'.

The opening, held on July 17, comes after the official launch of the Centenary Fields project by the Duke of Cambridge in Coventry.

The Centenary Fields project, led by the UK charity Fields in Trust in partnership with The Royal British Legion, aims to protect war memorial fields, parks and green spaces created in memory of those who lost their lives during World War One.

Ivor Morgan, chairman of Fields in Trust Cymru said: "Centenary Fields is a fitting and unique way of marking the sacrifices made by Servicemen and women 100 years ago in World War One."

"We are delighted that the Vale

Council is the first local authority in Wales to protect space as a Centenary Field and we call upon all other authorities in Wales to follow the Vale's lead and protect more spaces over the next four years to create this living legacy."

Coun Neil Moore said: "The council and cabinet fully support this initiative that recognises the ultimate sacrifice made by service personnel."

"It will also add to the protection of this valuable park in Penarth signifying the centenary of World War One. I was delighted to assist The Fields in Trust in creating this legacy for future generations."

In 1924, the Cenotaph, by Cardiff-born sculptor and medalist Sir William Goscombe John, was erected in memory of those who lost their lives in the First World War – and some years later, the Garden of Remembrance and topiary work were added.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2014

1. Notice is given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under sections 32.33 & 35 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and of all other enabling powers proposes to make an Order, the general effect of which is to provide parking places at the location specified in the Schedule below.

2. Full details of the proposals, may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours and any objections you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Director of Visible Services & Housing (Ref.T/13/153/DJH) in writing by 21st August 2014 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.

3. Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed Order open to public inspection.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:

Vale of Glamorgan Council (Off Street Parking Places) Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE

Proposed Car Park Charging and Enforcement – Daily 08.00 to 23.00
Appendix: Nells Point Barry Island

PAYMENT PARKING PLACES

Classes of vehicles: 1. Registered Disabled vehicles
2. Motor cars 3. Buses / Coaches 4. Solo Motorcycle

| Name of Parking Place | Class of Vehicle | Hours & days of operation of Parking Place | Max Period for which a vehicle may wait | Scale of Charges for Parking Place |
|---|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Nell's Point, Station Approach Road, Barry Island | 1,2 & 4 3 by arrangement only | 08:00 – 23:00 every day | 15 hours | <p>From 15 March – 30 September</p> <p>(08:00 – 23:00 hours)* 'Evening rate applies when parking after 16.00 hours</p> <p>0-2 Hours £2:00 2 plus Hours £5:00 Buses / Coaches £10:00 Disabled FREE Solo Motorcycle FREE</p> <p>(16:00 – 23:00 hours) * Evening rate</p> <p>0-7 Hours £2:00 Disabled FREE Buses / Coaches £5:00 Solo Motorcycle FREE</p> |
| | 1,2 & 4 3 by arrangement only | 08:00 – 23:00 every day | 15 hours | <p>From 1 October – 14 March</p> <p>(08:00 – 23:00 hours)</p> <p>0-15 Hours FREE Buses / Coaches FREE Disabled FREE Solo Motorcycle FREE</p> |

Dated this 31st day of July 2014

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG GORCHYMYN (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIO) (MANNAU PARCIO ODDI AR Y STRYD)

1. Hysbysir trwy hyn y bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan adranau 32.33 a 35 a Rhan IV Atodlen 9 Deddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd 1984 a Rhan 6 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004, a phob pŵer galluogi arall yn gwneud Gorchymyn. Diben cyffredinol y Gorchymyn hwnnw fydd darparu manau parcio yn y lleoliad sydd wedi'i nodi yn yr Atodlen isod.

2. Cewch weld y cynigion llawn drwy fynd i'r cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Os oes gennych unrhyw wrthwynebiad i'r cynnig, dylech anfon llythyr at Gyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai (Cyf. T/13/153/DJH) erbyn 21 Awst 2014 gan nodi'ch rhesymau dros ei wrthwynebu.

3. Dylai'r sawl sy'n gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn a gynigiwyd gofio bod dyletswydd gyfreithiol ar y cyngor hwn, o dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Hawl i Wybodaeth) 1985, i sicrhau bod pob ymateb a gaiff i'r gorchymyn dan sylw ar gael i'r cyhoedd ei astudio.

Bydd y Gorchymyn Rheoli Traffig canlynol yn cael ei ddiwygio fel a ganlyn:
Gorchymyn (Gorfodi Sifil) (Parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2013

ATODLEN

Cynigiwyd codi a gorfodi taliadau am barcio bob dydd rhwng 8.00 a 23.00

Atodiad: Nells Point, Ynys Y Barri

MANNAU PARCIO A THALIADAU

Mathau o gerbydau: 1. Cerbydau wedi'u cofrestru ar gyfer pobl anabl
2. Moduron 3. Bysiau / Coetsis 4. Beiciau Modur unigol

| Man Parcio | Math o gerbyd | Oriau a dyddiau darparu'r man parcio | Nifer yrr oriau y caiff cerbyd aros | Graddfa daliadau |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Nell's Point, Station Approach Road, Ynys Y Barri | 1,2 a 4 3 drwy drefnu'n unig | 08:00 – 23:00 Bob dydd | 15 awr | <p>15 Mawrth – 30 Medi</p> <p>(08:00 – 23:00)*</p> <p>*Codir taliadau nos ar ôl 16.00</p> <p>0-2 awr £2:00 Dros 2 awr £5:00 Bysiau / Coetsis £10:00 Anabl AM DDIM Beiciau Modur unigol AM DDIM</p> <p>(16:00 – 23:00) * Taliadau nos</p> <p>0-7 awr £2:00 Anabl AM DDIM Bysiau / Coetsis £5:00 Beiciau Modur unigol AM DDIM</p> |
| | 1,2 a 4 3 drwy drefnu'n unig | 08:00 – 23:00 Bob dydd | 15 awr | <p>1 Hydref – 14 Mawrth</p> <p>(08:00 – 23:00)</p> <p>0-15 awr AM DDIM Bysiau / Coetsis AM DDIM Anabl AM DDIM Beiciau Modur unigol AM DDIM</p> |

Dyddiedig 31 Gorffennaf 2014.

M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Canolfan yr Alpau,
Gwenfô CF5 6AA



'Extreme history' captured interest of students

Probus Club of Dinas Powys.

ON July 22, Mr Phil Carradice spoke to the club on the subject 'History – like your teacher never told you'.

Trained as a teacher, Phil realised that to teach children history, it had to be made interesting and told like a story.

He grew up in Pembroke Dock at a time when the radio was the focal point of the family.

Phil's favourite programme was 'Journey Into Space' and this started his interest in stories. He and his father had weekly competitions to see who could write the best poem, with a 10 shilling prize for the winner.

As his father was the sole judge, Phil never won, until one week when his father was so impressed with his poem that he gave Phil £1.

Phil never confessed that he had copied it from a Biggles book.

A teaching post took Phil to the assessment centre for Delinquent Children in Penarth.

The children had little interest in learning because of the way lessons were being taught.

So he began to start any lesson with a factual story, preferably fairly horrific if possible, to appeal to their natural instincts for that sort of thing, and then developed it into a history lesson.

For example, his account of the execution of the Duke of Monmouth in 1687 after his defeat at the Battle of Sedgemoor, when the axe-man needed six attempts to remove the duke's head.

Similarly, Marie Antoinette's lips were alleged to be moving for ten seconds after she lost her head.

Once the class realised that history was real and did actually happen, they took more interest in the lecture.

about the times leading up to these events.

As an introduction to the horrors of the Second World War, Phil would first give an account of the death of Reinhardt Heydrich, a brutal German officer who had become known as the 'Butcher of Prague' due to his treatment of the citizens.

British spies attempted an assassination but the bomb only exploded under Heydrich's car.

However, the horsehair stuffing from the car's upholstery penetrated his body so deeply that doctors could not save him.

Phil has always been keen to separate facts from fiction, although he acknowledges that the facts should never get in the way of a good story.

For example, King Harold was not killed by an arrow in the eye, this error is the result of a misunderstanding of the Bayeux tapestry.

He was pulled from his horse and hacked to death by the French knights who cut off his hands and feet and sent them to his mother.

Despite the fact that almost every account we read claims that Dylan Thomas was an alcoholic, he gave that impression because he liked being in pubs, playing to an audience.

It wasn't until he went to America that he began to drink heavily, probably due to depression.

His inquest found no evidence of liver damage or the like, the principal cause of death was connected to his asthmatic condition and the drugs administered by an American doctor.

Phil stressed the importance of studying history in the hope that the world would learn from its past mistakes although he doesn't see much evidence of that happening.

The vote of thanks was given by Marshall Anderson.

Charles Rees

WHAT'S ON - In brief

Mediumship

AN evening of mediumship takes place on August 4 at Barry national Spiritualist Church and centre in Buttrills Road, with Mike and Jackie Phillips at 7pm. Pay at the door £4.

USC elections

ON September 2 at the United Services Club, Tondur Road, Bridgend, members are invited to the election of officers and committee for 2014/2015.

Contact Andrew Reekie, honorary secretary Bridgend Branch, 3 Bryn-Deri, Bridgend, CF31 4EN.

Find The GEM on Facebook - facebook.com/GlamorganGEM

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 4) ORDER 2014

1. Notice is given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53 and 124 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and of all other enabling powers proposes to make an Order, the general effect of which is to amend the parking places at the locations specified in the Schedule below.

2. Full details of the proposals, may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours and any objections you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Director of Visible Services & Housing (Ref.IF743) in writing by 21st August 2014 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.

3. Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed Order open to public inspection.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:

Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE

Insert New Map Schedule - No Waiting 9am to 6pm 1st April to 30th September

St Brides Way, Barry.

On the southern side of St Brides Way from a point 30metres from its junction with Ewenny Close in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 310 metres.

Dated this 31st day of July 2014

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG GORCHYMYN (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIO) (RHIF 4) (GWAHARDD MANNAU AROS, LLWYTHO A PHARCIO A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS LLWYTHO A PHARCIO)

1. Hysbysir trwy hyn y bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan adranau 1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53 a 124, a Rhan IV Atodlen 9 Deddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd 1984 a Rhan 6 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004, a phob pŵer galluogi arall, yn gwneud Gorchymyn. Diben cyffredinol y Gorchymyn hwnnw fydd newid y manau parcio yn y lleoliadau sydd wedi'u nodi yn yr Atodlen isod.

2. Cewch weld y cynigion llawn drwy fynd i'r cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Os oes gennych unrhyw wrthwynebiad i'r cynnig, dylech anfon llythyr at Gyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai (Cyf. IF743) erbyn 21 Awst 2014, gan nodi'ch rhesymau dros ei wrthwynebu.

3. Dylai'r sawl sy'n gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn a gynigiwyd gofio bod dyletswydd gyfreithiol ar y cyngor hwn, o dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Hawl i Wybodaeth) 1985, i sicrhau bod pob ymateb a gaiff i'r gorchymyn dan sylw ar gael i'r cyhoedd ei astudio.

Bydd y Gorchymyn Rheoli Traffig canlynol yn cael ei ddiwygio fel a ganlyn:
Gorchymyn (Gorfodi Sifil) Gwahardd Mannau Aros, Llwyddo a Pharcio a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio 2013.

ATODLEN

Cynnwys Atodlen Fap Newydd – Gwahardd Aros rhwng 9am a 6pm 1 Ebrill – 30 Medi

St Brides Way, Y Barri.

Ar ochr ddeheuol St Brides Way, o fan sy'n 30 metr o'r gyffordd ag Ewenny Close am 310 metr i gyfeiriad y gogledd ddwyrain.

Dyddiedig 31 Gorffennaf 2014

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô CF5 6AA.

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Live a life of adventure WITH MARIA LEIJERSTAM

DOUBLE world record holder Maria Leijerstam from the Vale, founder of the Burn Series of multisport events and qualified personal trainer, inspires you with her regular column on simple family sporting adventures in the beautiful countryside of south Wales.

Maria reveals how and where in your area you can combine sport and fitness into family fun.



Sowing the sporting seed!
THE Commonwealth Games in Glasgow is very much in the news this week and it looks like Wales is bringing home plenty of medals.

Welsh rhythmic gymnast Frankie Jones hit the high spot when she won Wales' first gold medal and three silver medals. Now that is inspirational!

Competing for Team Wales are 232 athletes, with athletics and aquatics commanding the largest entry, mainly because there is such a variety of activities within each of those sports.

Another interesting fact is that Team Wales included twins,

siblings and husband and wife duos, which goes to prove that your chosen sport can also be a family affair.

Families are at the heart of the Mini Burn series which is a great way to encourage youngsters to have a go at a variety of activities with the great encouragement of dad or even grandad alongside.

The next Mini Burn event at Margam Park is on Saturday, October 11, and is open to all family members; the only qualifier is a sense of adventure! You can enter on line now.

There is nothing better than introducing children at a young age to as many sports as possible so they can find their own individual niche. They have wonderful flexible bodies ready to tackle anything, and making sport

part of their day is not only brilliant for their health and development, but it also offers them a window to future personal achievements.

If they make it to a team, county or national level that is brilliant, but more important is that sport is woven into their lives early on, which guarantees a healthy life and lots of fun in the future.

You don't necessarily have to leave your back garden to introduce your children to the thrill of sport.

How about setting up a simple obstacle course?

Long jumps and high jumps only require some string and two garden chairs to tie to and for a good sprint set out plastic toys or bottles in a row for them to run in and out of.

Balls, hula hoops, skipping ropes, a plank to run along and even a large piece of tarpaulin for them to crawl under are everyday items that can be incorporated into an obstacle course.

Have fun in the sun, be safe and protect your skin. For more inspiration log onto www.burnseries.co.uk/.



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Topstak scores hole in one at Senior Open



ABOVE: Skewered baby potatoes roasting on the Big Green Egg.

V A L E - b a s e d company Topstak wowed guests with a succulent BBQ cooked on the 'Big Green Egg' at a private function during Royal Porthcawl Golf Club's Senior Open Championships at the weekend.

Local chef Ffion Jones served pulled pork, cooked on the Big Green Egg for seven hours, followed by a main course of summer bean salad with orange and chive dressing, rocket and horseradish sauce topped with sliced locally sourced sirloin and skewered roasted baby potatoes.

"We were delighted to be able to supply the Big Green Egg Barbecue for this prestigious event," says Adam Pedersen, Topstak director. "The 'Egg' is a very versatile outdoor cooking system, and it is possible to create a wide range of meals, from grilled meats and vegetables, to slow-

cooked meat and even to make pizzas."

Function organiser, Hugh Childs, an avid golfer and member of the Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, was delighted with the al fresco food cooked on the Big Green Egg: "We had 50 people for lunch on Saturday and 25 on Sunday, and the plaudits for the food were overwhelming."

Royal Porthcawl Golf Club's Senior Open Championships featured golfing legends Tom Watson and Colin Montgomerie.

Barry man takes up 20 challenges!

A VALE resident is taking on almost 20 sporting challenges across the UK – to raise money for Alzheimer's research at Cardiff University.

Jon Hussey (34), says the memory of his late grandmother, who had suffered from Alzheimer's for several years, was his personal motivation.

Recalling his grandmother's battle with the disease, Jon says: "We saw her deteriorate from a normal functioning adult to becoming almost like a child again. She lost her personality, her logic, and her ability to function."

"It was very painful to see her lose her sense of self. It is a very cruel disease."

He discovered the cutting-edge Alzheimer's research carried out at Cardiff University through his sister, who is an alumna of the institute.

"I chose Cardiff

University, as opposed to a more traditional charity, because I wanted my sponsorship to go into the research that may one day lead to halting, or even preventing, Alzheimer's. I also wanted it to go directly to those doing this invaluable work," Jon explained.

Jon, who lives in Barry, has already competed in 10 sporting challenges, including the 10k St David's Day Run, the Cardiff Bay Five Mile Race, and the Blenheim Palace Triathlon.

"The experience so far has been fantastic," says Jon. "I can honestly say I'm having the best year of my life. I feel like I'm doing something with meaning and purpose that may make a small contribution to a huge problem – Alzheimer's."

The worst is not yet over, with some of the UK's most strenuous sporting events coming his way in the latter half of the year, including Tough Mudder, the two mile Loch Lomond Swim, the Chepstow Stampede, and the Cardiff Half Marathon.

To support Jon's fundraising campaign for Alzheimer's research at Cardiff University, visit

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/jonhussey1>.

To follow Jon's progress throughout the year, follow his page

<https://www.facebook.com/2014seriesofunfortunatevents>.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE / in brief

Summer play

BCBC and Bridgend Town Council are again running a school holiday play-scheme aimed at the 8 – 12 years age range at Bridgend Recreation Centre until Friday, August 22. Sessions, Monday to Friday, from 10am to 2pm.

Shadows Club

AUGUST 12, Penarth Conservative Club, Stanwell Road (Tel 029 20 30 9979); South Wales Shadows Club's meeting; 8pm; all welcome.

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 Whitchurch 02920 692626 Canton 02920 222344 Pontcanna 02920 225700
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|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Meadowhead Y Parc £300,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached family home No onward chain Four bedrooms Sought after location TALBOT GREEN | Heol Hensol £90,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No onward chain Two double bedrooms Accessible to amenities Good investment buy TALBOT GREEN | Highdale Close £150,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi detached property Sought after location No onward chain Four bedrooms TALBOT GREEN | Talbot Road £220,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached property No onward chain Walking distance to amenities Viewing highly recommended TALBOT GREEN | Newport Road £114,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower ground floor apartment No onward chain Two bedrooms & bathroom Off street parking ROATH | Pentrebane £60,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No onward chain Top floor flat Double bedroom Shower room CANTON |
| Cardiff Bay £114,995 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11th floor apartment Superb views No chain EPC rating C CANTON | Michaelston Gardens £244,995 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached Four bedrooms Garage No chain CANTON | Jestyn Close, Drope £145,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two bedroom Modern end of link Well presented Viewing essential CANTON | Murrel Close £229,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached family home Four bedrooms Garage Conservatory CANTON | Atlantic Wharf £149,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First floor apartment Two bedrooms Living room/kitchen Parking space & no chain CANTON | Dylan Crescent £89,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three bedroom End of terrace Generous plot Open plan kitchen/diner uPVC double glazing BARRY |
| Commercial Road £74,995 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three double bedrooms Enclosed garden Traditional end of terrace Living/sitting/dining rooms BARRY | Clos Tyniad Glo £164,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three storey townhouse Three bedrooms En suite/integral garage Waterfront location Cul De Sac Position BARRY | Elm Grove £169,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three bedrooms Fitted kitchen Landscaped gardens Block paved driveway Viewing essential BARRY | Heol Y Gaer £154,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two double bedrooms Living room/kitchen Sea views Allocated parking Situated on The Knap BARRY | Cliffwood View Offers in excess of £300,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached bungalow Cul De Sac location Three bedrooms Living room & dining room Garage BARRY | High Street £139,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional mid terrace Three bedrooms Three storey In the heart of the West End 'You choose the carpets' BARRY |

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Miguel Angel Jimenez with his trademark cigar.



Bernhard Langer celebrates another birdie.



ABOVE: First Minister Carwyn Jones presents Bernhard Langer with the championship trophy.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk

Telephone 07791 228684 • www.ffotoimage.co.uk

Bernhard Langer completed a remarkable record-breaking front-running victory in The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex, carding a closing four under par round of 67 – to win by a staggering 13 shots from Colin Montgomerie at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club.

The German set a new record for the biggest winning margin in The Senior Open Championship, beating Bob Charles's 1989 mark by six strokes.

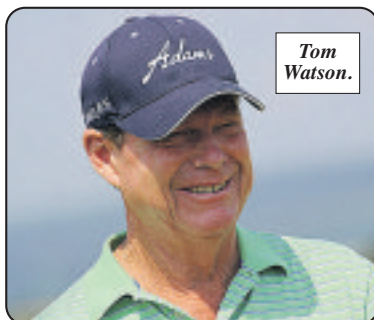
In a week when records tumbled, a crowd of 10,539 watched Langer's final round victory march, taking the total attendance for Wales' first Senior Major Championship to 43,503 – the second highest in the history of The Senior Open Championship, just short of last year's record of 45,503 at Royal Birkdale last year.

Langer's incredible winning total was made even more remarkable, given that only four other players broke par for the Championship.

Englishman Barry Lane, American Tom Pernice Jr and Rick Gibson of Canada shared third place on two under par, but the result was never in doubt.

"This is very unusual," said Langer, who earns a place in next year's Open Championship at St Andrews. "I've won a tournament by 17, the World Championship under 25 years, but this just doesn't happen, not with the competition you're facing."

"Certainly not in a Major where the best from around the globe are playing in the



Tom Watson.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 3 TRAY USA 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 DUNLAP USA 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 WATSON GBR 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 WILLIAMS GBR 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 TRIPLETT GBR 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 LANE GBR 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 MONTGOMERIE GBR 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 268 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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championship. So it's been an amazing week for me."

It led Montgomerie, who extended his lead in the Senior Tour Order of Merit, to pay tribute to the incredible accomplishment of his former Ryder Cup teammate.

"I would like to say, Bernhard Langer's performance here is one of the golfing performances of all-time," said Montgomerie.

"To finish 18 under round here, is remarkable play."

"There is satisfaction in finishing second today. The rest of us were playing for second place, and I feel that I won. There were 144 in the field and I beat 143 of them, it was just him. But that him is awfully good, I must admit."

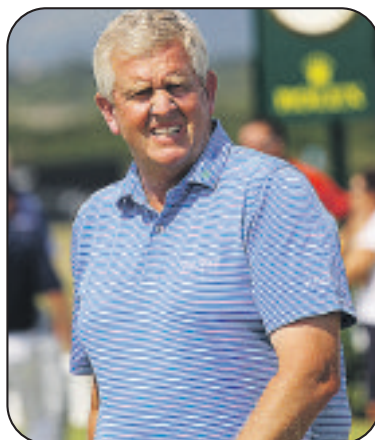
"I've played well here, and I've lost by 13, which is ridiculous. All credit to him."

Spaniard Miguel Angel Jimenez signed

off his debut in The Senior Open Championship with an eagle on the last hole for a round of 68 to finish tied eighth on one over par, while US Ryder Cup captain Tom Watson closed with a round of 77 to fall back to a share of 10th on two over par.

Leading final round scores from The Senior Open Championship Presented by Rolex (par 71)

266 B Langer (Ger)
65 66 68 67,
279 C Montgomerie (Sco)
72 66 72 69,
282 R Gibson (Can)
70 71 66 75, B Lane (Eng)
72 69 69 72, T Pernice Jr (USA)
78 64 70 70,
284 S Dunlap (USA)
71 73 65 75, B Tway (USA)
67 73 68 76,
285 K Triplett (USA)
72 72 71 70, M Jimenez (Esp)
74 69 74 68, 286 R Cochran (USA)
74 73 67 72, T Watson (USA)
74 66 69 77.



ABOVE: Colin Montgomerie said that Langer produced "one of the golfing performances of all time".



ABOVE: A young fan, trying to get a selfie with Tom Watson?



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1. Bydd y cytundeb uchod, a gwblhawyd ar
3 Gorffennaf 2014, yn creu llwybr troed
cyhoeddus sy'n dderbyniol gan y
perchennog tir.
2. Bydd y cytundeb yn creu llwybr troed cyhoeddus
sy'n cychwyn ar y Briffordd Sirol a adwaenir fel
'St Lythans Road' ac yn arwain ymlaen ar hyd
llwybr graean i gyfeiriad y de ddwyrain.
3. Cewch weld copi o'r cytundeb yn rhad ac am ddim
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4RT rhwng 9.00am a 4.00pm ar unrhyw ddiwrnod
yn ystod yr wythnos. Bydd copiau o'r cytundeb ar
werth yn y fan honno hefyd am £4.50 yr un.
4. Mae'r cytundeb yn dod i rym ar
unwaith.

Byddiedig 31 Gorffennaf 2014

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu, Swyddfa'r
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1. The above named agreement completed on
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creating a public footpath by agreement with
the landowner.
2. The effect of the agreement is to create a
public footpath commencing at the County
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continues southeast along a gravel track.
3. A copy of the agreement may be seen free
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bought there at £4.50.
4. The Agreement comes into operation with
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Dated 31 July 2014

Director of Development Services,
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Stephanie Ridler

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Mum & Dad
xxx

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All our love,
Mum, family & friends

**Family Notices****SHAW****Robert Martin
(Bobby)**

Suddenly at home on 22nd July - Bobby, aged 32 years, much loved Son of Robert Snr and Jean.

He will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew him. Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Monday 4th August at 3.45pm where friends may meet.

Friends are welcome to join the family after the service at The Brynhill Golf Club, Port Road East, Barry after the funeral to share your memories of Bobby.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis
@ The Vale Funeral Service 01446 407962

GILBERTS

Pat, Tim, Amanda & the family wish to thank all those who supported them on their sad loss. The many cards and expressions of sympathy have been a great comfort to them.

They thank everyone who attended Howard's funeral service and would like to thank the nurses, doctors and staff at Llandough Hospital for the loving care and attention they gave to Howard.

PIKE**Elaine Margaret**

Peacefully on July 25th at Velindre Hospital - Elaine formerly of Grangetown and Penarth. Loving wife of the late Colin and dearly devoted Mum of Nicola & Gareth. Adored Nanna of Olivia and Brandon. Elaine will be greatly missed by all her family and many friends.

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until a celebration of her life at the Vale Funeral Service Chapel, Windsor Road, Barry (Opposite Mount Sorrel Hotel) on Thursday 7th August at 10.45am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. Immediate family flowers only - donations if desired may be made at the service to the 'Brian Tumour Charity' or via their website www.braintumouruk.org.uk in memory of Elaine.

**Robert Webb
(Bob)**

Suddenly at his home in Llantwit Major after a short illness on Wednesday 23rd July with his family.

Beloved husband of Brenda and much loved father of Glyn and Sandra and father-in-law of Gary, loving grandad to James, Alex, Sam, Catherine and Melissa and great grandad to Lily, who will be very much missed by all who knew him.

Funeral August 6th, service and cremation 3pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium. (No flowers by request).

**MITCHELL
Muriel Marjorie
(nee Hook)**

Peacefully at Llandough hospital on 26th July 2014 aged 95 years. Beloved wife to the late Wilfred, much loved mother to Ann and Les, mother-in-law to Chris and Jean, nan to Helen and Neil, grandma to Katie, Leon and Tracey, great grandmother to Lauren, Jacob, Taliesin, Tathan, Shannon and Taylor. Colourful attire to be worn please, no black.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son funeral home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the service in St Johns Methodist Church, Barry Island on Monday 4th August 2014 at 12.30pm followed by a committal service at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only, donations to Cardiff & The Vale ULHB. Please write 'Breast Centre Llandough' on the back of the cheque and send to:

Michelle Chivers, Fundraising Administrator, Breast Centre, Penlan Road, University Hospital of Llandough, Llandough, Penarth, CF64 2XX.

Elaine Pike

Mum,
Goodnight, sweet
dreams, forever in
our hearts.

Craig, Michelle,
Thomas and Kiara.

Birthdays**Jacques Stephan
Vanderwarker**

**Happy
10th Birthday
on 3rd August**

to our handsome
grandson & nephew
with lots of love
from Nana,
Papa & Unc xxx

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**JACQUES STEPHAN
VANDERWARKER**

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3rd August**

To my little man,
love you loads,
Mum (or should I
say mother) xxx

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**Birthday
Memories**

Birthday
Memories

**T.K.
FARMAN**

31.7.25
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*I never thought that
loneliness
Could bring such
bitter pain
That memories could
hurt me so
And wound my heart
again
Yet even in despair
I know that every tear
I shed would
grieve the heart that
loved me so
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wife, Gwyneth*

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A disappointing weekend for Sully Centurions

Sully Centurions 1st XI entertained top-of-the-table Pontymister at Burnham Avenue and were well beaten.

The visitors batted first and were 160 for 7 with nine overs to go. Thanks to some big hitting late on in the innings, they finished on 241 for 8 after the 50 overs.

Salman (46) and Adnan Ghorri (65) did the bulk of the damage for Pontymister. The wickets were shared around among the Sully bowlers, with Nathan Cuddihy taking two.

In reply, Centurions started brightly with openers Tom Edwards (27) and Shae Ellis (12) getting the home side to 30 runs within the first 5 overs.

However, the only other Sully batsman to get into double figures was Owain Sullivan, who hit 11. A big collapse saw Centurions skittled out for just 88 in the 25th over.

Ghorri added to his fine batting performance by taking 3 for 12, with the best figures posted by Muhammed Asif, who finished on 4 for 15 off just six overs.

Seconds back to earth with a bump

After last week's big win, Centurions' 2nd XI came crashing down to earth with a bump when they were comprehensively beaten by a powerful Pontymister side.

After grabbing a couple of early wickets to leave Pontymister on 34 for 2, Sully came up against Sharratt (118) and Lancaster (70) who dispatched the visiting attack to all corners, as they shared a third wicket stand of 166. This gave the rest of the batsmen licence to hit out and although a total of nine wickets were lost, the home side still managed to post a huge total of 343 at the end of the 45 overs.

In spite of the daunting total, a special mention must be made of young Gethin Hicks, who managed to finish with figures of 2 for 28 in his first senior match.

The Centurions innings never really got into top gear as wickets fell regularly. Opener Dan Chaulk hit 38 before being stumped with the score on 65 for 6.

Only Paul Harrison (19) and Emma Davies (17) managed to reach double figures, with the innings closing on 115 all

out in the 37th over. Asif Ali (3 for 22) and Mian (3 for 10, including five maidens) were the pick of the bowlers for the victorious home side.

SAINTS SHOW FINE PRE-SEASON FORM

BARRY Saints kept up their 100 per cent pre-season record with a win over CSKA Sophia Gardens.

CSKA took an early lead after a defensive lapse, leaving the striker with a simple finish. The Saints hit back immediately with Darren Townsend placing an accurate drive into the bottom corner.

Saints were playing the better football and making numerous chances but conceded a carbon copy of the first goal, but gain the scores were levelled after a delicious corner was hit firmly home on the volley by Andrew Wyatt.

Saints landed a lethal blow with some tidy football finding Joey Matthews, who bent the ball in to the top corner from 25 yards.

Another swift move gave Townsend an opportunity to strike at goal. It was heading straight to the keeper, only for the ball to

bobble between his legs!

Saints made changes for the second half and were immediately punished as poor communication resulted in an easy goal for the opposition. David Evans restored the two goal advantage after a sweetly-struck shot from 25 yards into the bottom corner. Townsend managed to complete his hat-trick after cutting in from the right and lobbing the keeper with ease from 30 yards.

Michael Evans finished the scoring for another victory, 7-3 and a good run out for the Saints.

Special thanks to FitM8 of Park Crescent, Barry for providing Barry Saints AFC with a match ball for the forthcoming season.

If anyone else is looking to support grassroots football, any contribution would be of great help. Please get in touch by email to glong147@yahoo.co.uk

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'Handsome' wins for Cadoxton A bowlers

AFTER a couple of months of struggling to find enough players to field a full team, Cadoxton's A side has seen off two CML5 league opponents in fine style, winning both matches handsomely.

An earlier CML5 match against Barry Central on Saturday, July 19, saw Alex Turner skip a triple against a full rink skipped by Tom Caged, to complete the only Cadoxton success: R Cole, D Hammond, A Turner 20 - 13; S Clements, A Field, A Prince, A Carpenter 8 - 27; J Stacey, I Heppenstall, M Curtis 11 - 24; E Heppenstall, D Fanning, J Sugden 18 - 25. Totals: 38 - 102.

A game against Murch A, having been postponed twice was eventually played on Monday, July 21, resulting in a four-rink 102-55 shots victory for Cadoxton.

Last weekend, a visit to Rumney A on Saturday, July 26 saw the Cadoxton A-siders record another clear-cut victory: D Fanning, J Sugden, L Davies, D Tuck 19-20; A Carpenter, G Solomon, D Jefferies, R Harding 14-23; J Stacey, D Hammond, Craven, D Kuhnell 24-14; R Byrne, H Hellyar, M Curtis, J Jones 34-14. Totals: 91 - 71.

In both matches, lead newcomer Rob Byrne and vice-captain Dennis Hammond played significant parts, ably supported by a prudent mix of experienced and newish recruits.

A-side captain David Fanning said that: "Every so often it's good to remind people that Cadoxton were playing top-notch bowls

while other Barry and nearby clubs were just twinkles in their founders' parents' eyes."

The club side achieved some significant results in its recent Munro Cup matches.

On Wednesday, July 16, Barry Plastics were the visitors to Cadoxton for this fixture which resulted in two winning rinks each with the visitors taking the aggregate.

John Jones skipped the most successful rink for Cadoxton against Lee Romans' rink.

The first half of the game was controlled by the home rink. Starting with a three and a four, the score reached 16-3 with just one losing end.

A 'mini' recovery reduced the advantage by nine shots during the next four ends, but a big finish, including two threes, completed a considerable success.

Gordon Davies was the other successful skip against Peter Oxenham, but this was a much tighter affair.

The scores were tied on three occasions and after 14 ends were completed the home side had a slender two-shot advantage which was boosted on the next with a five; however shots were conceded during the closing ends to reduce the margin to just one.

Derek Brook only managed four winning ends against experienced skip Keith Romans.

After opening with a four against, Howard Craven's rink won three singles and conceded four against opposing skip Graham Brown.

The remaining 10 ends brought further success for the visitors, with six winning ends, including three threes, to win substantially:

R Byrne, D Hammond, I Robertson, H Craven 10 - 22; S Clements, G Solomon, S Clarke, D Brook 6 - 27; E Heppenstall, J Sugden, D Evans, G Davies, 17 - 16; J Stacey, P Swannick, D Jefferies, J Jones 25 - 12. Totals: 58 - 77.

The club side's Munro Cup home fixture on Wednesday, July 20 against Windsor Penarth was a close-run battle until the visitors broke away for an 81-41 shot win.

In a CML4 league match, at home to Penryheol A on July 19, the club side started badly, with all four rinks losing the opening exchanges.

Skipping for the side for the first time, Gordon Davies conceded a two and a three before recovering steadily to lead by the 13th end before running out the winner by three shots.

Kelvin Chedzgoz lost three shots on the opening end but responded with a six on the next before a run of three losing ends reduced the deficit to two, which was never recovered and eventually resulted in an 18-27 loss.

Howard Craven's rink dropped nine shots behind, pulling back with a fine five until two fours against near the end took away any hope of a victory.

Overall, by the 12th end the visitors were seven shots ahead and closed out the match 16 shots ahead: L Davies, S Clarke, D Brook, H Craven 13-25; P Swannick, R Harding, P Ellis, K Chedzgoz 18-27; R Byrne, D Evans, J Jones, D Kuhnell 23-21; G Solomon, I Robertson, D Jefferies, G Davies 21-18.

Totals: 75-91.

DAVID FANNING

LEE TESTS HIMSELF

BARRY CHESS CLUB NEWS

LAST week saw the start of the 101st British Chess Championships.

This year it is the turn of Wales to host the event, which is taking place in Aberystwyth University. While there are a number of different competitions, the main event is the British Championship, which takes place over 11 rounds of play.

These games commence at 2.30pm each day with a possible playing time of seven hours.

The eventual winner will not only have to play exceptional chess but will need enormous amounts of stamina.

There are approximately 60 entrants, mainly from England, with Lee Davis from the Barry Chess Club also taking part. With his FIDE rating of 1978, Lee is ranked 53rd in the tournament.

All of Lee's opponents in the first six rounds were ranked well above him. In the first round, Lee had an excellent win over Joseph McPhillips, rated 2200. His next two opponents were an IM and an FM, so there was no disgrace in losing

both of these games.

In round four Lee drew with FM Mike Waddington and in round five he earned another draw, this time against Oskar Hackner. Alas, in round six against his weakest opponent to date, although still giving away approximately 100 ranking points, he lost again.

So, after six rounds Lee had two points which placed him in 50th spot in the table.

After the seventh round there was a break in play to allow the players to recuperate before the final four rounds of matches this week.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

For more details, visit barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

Phil Jones
Club Secretary

Ladies golf results at Brynhill GC



Carole Allen.



Linda Hewlett.



Mother and daughter, Helen Cook and Shirley O'Donovan with lady vice captain Glynis Gould. ON July 22, wall-to-wall sunshine was the order of the day for the Brynhill lady vice captain's competition.

Well done to all 39 lady golfers who completed the course and played in such exhausting conditions. Glynis had ordered the sun, but not in such huge quantities!

The presentation was well attended in the evening and the prizes were presented.

Thanks to Glynis for a well-organised day and night.

Winners: Silver, Helen Cook 38 points, runner up Linda Hewlett 37; bronze, Shirley O'Donovan 37 points over back nine from Carole Allen.

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Whitmore Bay carnival proves a huge success



THE weather was perfect for the early Sunday morning start, which saw over 150 nippers represented from 11 surf lifesaving clubs from across the south Wales coast, helping to make the second Whitmore Bay Carnival a great success.

In total there were 60 events during the day for the various age groups between 7 – 12 years.

The competition started with 'beach flags', which is highly

competitive and action-packed and is used to practice sprinting and reflexes.

Then followed sprints and team relays.

A very popular sandhopper race for the club's younger 5 – 7 year-olds saw the future nippers get a taste of what being a volunteer lifeguard is all about.

The afternoon saw events move into the water with run, swim, run and rescue board events. The final fun event was a tug-of-war between each of the clubs – with Whitmore taking the Cup.

The overall winners were Rhosce, followed by Rest Bay, with Whitmore Bay coming third, closely followed by the team from Llantwit Major.

Well done to all the nippers who took part – the hours of practice, determination and teamwork shone through on the day. A huge thank you goes to all the coaches, parents and everyone who helped with the organisation and running of the day and to all the clubs for coming to take part. A great day was had by all.

JD

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GOLF COMES TO THE 'FORE'!



Top quality golf came to Porthcawl last week and, although the competitors were all over 50, the eventual winner, Bernhard Langer, produced a stunning performance.

On the Wednesday, Wales' Ian Woosnam held a golf clinic for young players from all over south Wales (above, photograph by Getty Images).

When the tournament proper began, crowds were eager to follow the competitors as they tackled the considerable challenges set by the links course at Royal Porthcawl. (Photograph below by Glyn Evans). See page 29 for a report on the golf, and more photos by Glyn Evans.



Everton are coming to town!

MONDAY, August 11 will mark the launch of Bridgend Disabled Football Club Mental Health team when they take on the mighty Everton EITC at Penybont Football Club in Bridgend, kick-off at 2pm.

Bridgend DFC, who have been running for the past three years and playing in tournaments around the country, are looking forward to challenging one of Everton's 27 disabled teams who are very well known across Europe.

Team manager Kelly Hall said: "We are hoping that from this game we can create enough awareness and increase participation in football."

"Anyone willing to come along and support is more than welcome."

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BRIDGEND BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

THE results for Bridgend Bridge Club for recent events are for Wednesday, July 23.

First, David Birt and Simon Richards; second, Alan Heath and Rob Forman; third, John Beard and Liam Sheridan.

Friday, July 25. First, Alan Williams and Liam Sheridan; second, Jane Brook and Wendy Williams; third, John Henson and Terry Dolan.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at Noltan Church Hall at 7pm. We try to start at 7pm so it helps if people arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursdays from 2pm to 5pm, also at Noltan Church Hall, there are gentle bridge sessions for the less experienced where assistance is readily

available.

The best placed improvers for July 24 were Stuart Davies Colin Lewis Susan Hunt and Arthur Harvey.

Lessons
A new series of lessons will commence on Thursday, September 18 at 11am, also at Noltan Church Hall;

these are primarily for beginners and those who have played some bridge and would like to improve either or both their bidding and card play.

To book a place on the course or to obtain more information contact John Evans on 01656 880372

'Up and down' week for bowlers

Llantwit Major ladies had an up and down week playing at Pencoed on Tuesday in the CCS.

They could not manage a win on any rink with Eryl's rink losing by one 14-15.

Val's rink had a slow start but managed to score in the second half 9-24; Julie's played a nip and tuck game and their score was 14-20.

We were more fortunate on Thursday when Cowbridge visited us for a league match. Although Cowbridge fought hard, Llantwit managed to hold them off on two rinks. All rinks were won on the last end with Peggy going down 14-16; Carol's winning 18-13; and Margaret's 18-17.

It was enjoyable afternoon in pleasant company. Carol Willmot

Bridgend bowler is to represent Wales



From left to right: Tony Harris, chairman of Welsh Association of Visually Impaired Bowlers (WAVIB), Julie Thomas and Wales team manager, John Wilson.

A VISUALLY IMPAIRED
Bridgend county borough resident is preparing to represent Wales at the UK Singles and Triples Lawn Bowls competition next year.

Julie Thomas has been working with the council's Active Young People Department (AYPD) to hone her

skills before joining the Wales VI team to battle it out with competitors from countries such as New Zealand and Ireland.

Together with partner organisations, the AYPD team develop sport and physical activity opportunities in Bridgend county borough for people of all ages and abilities by tackling issues such as disability, gender, age and language.

Working with Bridge Vis and Halo Leisure, the AYPD team have provided various activities for visually impaired people, such as yoga and spinning classes at Bridgend Life Centre, and have also worked with Tondur Target Shooting Club to use a development grant from Sport Wales to set up events for visually impaired people.

BRIDGEND Sports Mini and Junior section currently have available in the under-12 and under-14 squads.

Training takes place weekly on the Bandstand, Newbridge Fields led by experienced coaches. The under 12s meet on Thursday (6pm to 7pm); under 14s on Wednesday (7pm to 8pm).

Bridgend Sports is a family friendly environment and the club pride themselves on a tradition of 'All Inclusive' rugby. Encouraging all through the development of rugby skills as well as making sure that both training and match days are fun. Join the fun, meet new friends and help build our squads.

Check out our website www.bridgendsportsrfc.co.uk for further information, or pop along to a training session to see if you'd like to join us.

David McNally, Coaching Co-ordinator

that she was interested in the sport and some taster sessions were arranged. She is now a member of the bowls club and in her first competition, won the Welsh VI Ladies singles in Swansea.

Julie said: "It's all going really well at the moment and it's something that I'd never thought I'd be taking part in."

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for Wellbeing, said: "I would like to congratulate Julie on her bowling success and for helping to demonstrate exactly what sort of opportunities are out there for people of all ages and abilities."

"We were very proud to recently receive the Inspiro Bronze Award from Disability Sport Wales for our inclusive approaches to sport, and we want to continue to develop these opportunities within our communities."

For more information on AYPD's work, call 01656 815215 or email aypd@bridgend.gov.uk.

Porthcawl Bridge Club latest results

RECENT results at Porthcawl Bridge Club are as follows:

Saturday July 12. First – Roger Plant and Betty Longley; second – Connie Dick and Roger Draper.

Monday July 14. First – Trish Saunders and Pat Haworth; second – Gary Williams and Tony Haworth.

Thursday July 17. First – Keith Davison and Tony Haworth; second – Sue Anthony and Trish Saunders.

Saturday July 19. First – Roger Plant and Betty Longley; second – Dil and Marian Evans.

Monday July 21s. First – Maurice and Margaret Harris; second – Pat Roper and Tony Haworth.

Thursday July 24. First – Peter and Sandie Jenkins; second – Peter Bennett and Jean Hughes.

The club meets three times a week – Saturday and Thursday at the Awel-y-Mor centre, and Monday at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 7pm to 10.15 pm. Visitors are welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call secretary, Trish on 01656 785794.

TH